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MIDWINTER DREAM

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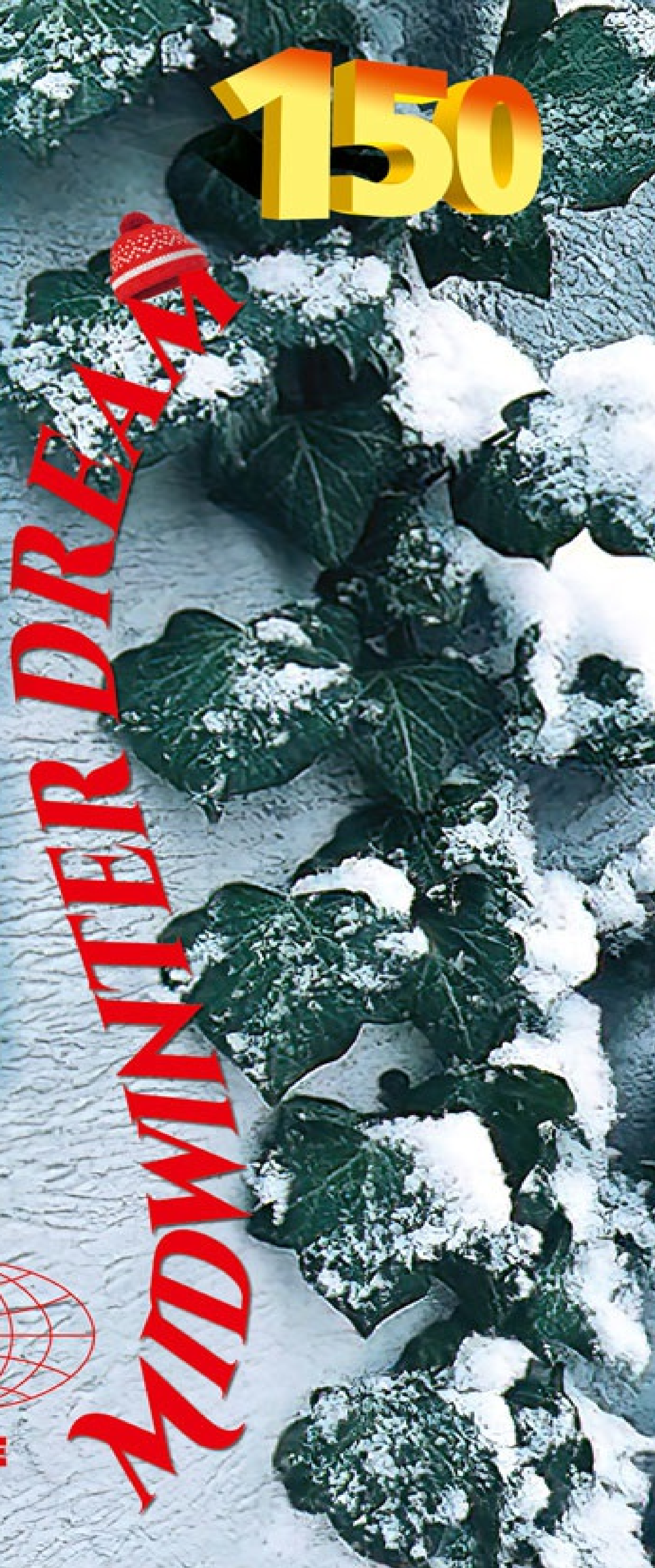
FIDE



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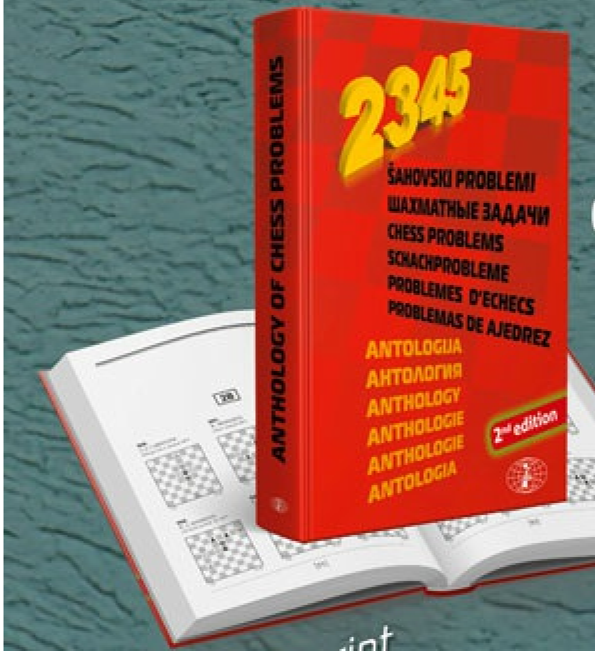
Foișor ★ Davies
Szảbó ★ Marian Petrov
Prusikin ★ Griffin
Jacimović ★ Marin

Introducing
Sandra Đukić


2345
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ШАХМАТНЫЕ ЗАДАЧИ
CHESS PROBLEMS
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The Inventors of the Chess Informant systems

Aleksandar MATANOVIĆ, Braslav RABAR, Milivoje MOLEROVIĆ,
Aleksandar BOŽIĆ, Borislav MILIĆ

Contributors

GM Boško ABRAMOVIĆ, IM Khamparia AKSHAT, IM Zoran ARSOVIĆ, GM Goran ČABRILO,
IM Srđan CVETKOVIĆ, FM Pavle DIMIĆ, Barak GONEN, CCM Pierre JEAN,
Hindemburg MELÃO jr., GM Dejan PIKULA, IM Miloš STANKOVIĆ,
IM Valentin STOICA, IM Ranko SZUHANEK

Columnists

GM Nigel DAVIES, WIM Sandra ĐUKIĆ, WGM Sabina-Francesca FOIŞOR,
GM L'ubomír FTÁČNIK, Douglas GRIFFIN, GM Dragoljub JAĆIMOVIĆ, GM Rafael LEITÃO,
GM Mihail MARIN, GM Elshan MORADIABADI, GM Marian PETROV,
GM Michael PRUSIKIN, GM Ian ROGERS, GM Krisztián SZABÓ

Editorial board

IM Goran ARSOVIĆ, Vitomir BOŽIĆ, GM Aleksandar MATANOVIĆ, IM Tomislav PAUNOVIĆ,
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Nenad VUKMIROVIĆ, Igor ŽVEGLIĆ

Editor-in-chief

GM Aleksandar MATANOVIĆ

General Manager

Vitomir BOŽIĆ

President

GM Aleksandar MATANOVIĆ

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SISTEM ZNAKOVA • СИСТЕМА ЗНАКОВ • SYSTEM OF SIGNS • ZEICHENERKLÄRUNG • SYSTÈME DE SYMBOLES • SISTEMA DE SIGNOS • SPIEGAZIONE DEI SEGNI • TECKENFÖRKLARING • 符号系统 • نظام الرموز

⩲	white stands slightly better
⩱	black stands slightly better
±	white has the upper hand
∓	black has the upper hand
+–	white has a decisive advantage
–+	black has a decisive advantage
=	even
∞	unclear
=∞	with compensation for the material
↻	development advantage
O	greater board room
→	with attack
↑	with initiative
⇄	with counterplay
⊙	zugzwang
#	mate
!	a very good move
!!	an excellent move
?	a mistake
??	a blunder
!?	a move deserving attention
?!	a dubious move
∆	with the idea
□	only move
⌓	better is
⊞	centre
»	king's side
«	queen's side
×	weak point
⊥	endgame
⧉	bishops of opposite color

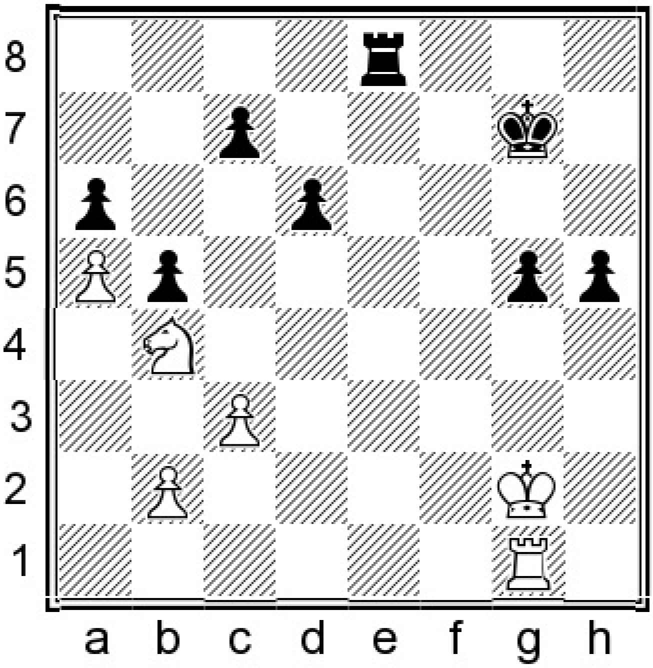
■	bishops of the same color
○○	double pawns
♂	passed pawn
>	advantage in number of pawns
⊕	time
86/203	Chess Informant
E 12	Encyclopaedia of Chess Openings
♖ 3/b	Encyclopaedia of Chess Endings
N	a novelty
(ch)	championship
(izt)	interzonal tournament
(ct)	candidates' tournament
(m)	match
(ol)	olympiad
corr.	correspondence game
RR	editorial comment
R	various moves
∟	with
–	see

THE BEST GAME
OF THE PRECEDING VOLUME

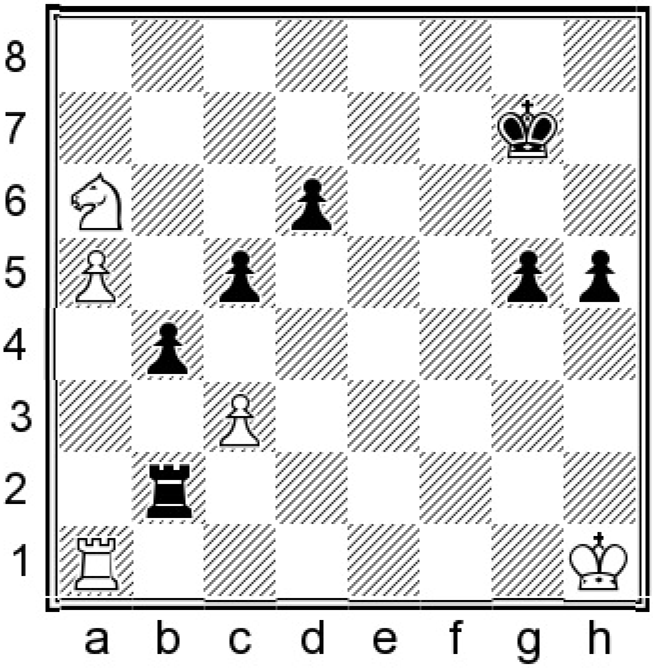
Editors' Pick

149/120. C78
Jan-Krzysztof DUDA 2738 — Santosh Gujrathi VIDIT 2726
Krasnaya Polyana (m/2) 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.0-0 b5 6.♗b3 ♗c5 7.a4 ♖b8 8.c3 d6 9.d4 ♗b6 10.a5 ♗a7 [10...♘a5? 11.♖a5 ♗a5 12.de5 ♘g4 13.♗g5↑ – 80/362] **11.h3** [11.♗e3 ♗g4 – 108/(91)] **11...♗b7 12.♗e3 ♘e4 13.d5 ♗e3 14.dc6 ♘f2 15.♕e2** [15.♕d5 – 111/157] **15...♘h3 16.♔h1 ♘f2 17.♖f2 ♗f2 18.♕f2 ♗c6! N** [18...♗c8? 19.♘e5 0-0 20.♘d3±] **19.♘e5 ♗g2! 20.♔g1** [20.♔g2? ♕g5 21.♔f1 (21.♔h1? ♕h5 22.♔g2 de5–+) 21...♕e5 22.♕f7 ♔d8 23.♗e6 ♕f6∓] **20...♕f6** [20...0-0 21.♘f7 ♕e7 22.♘d2 d5 23.♕g2 ♕e3 24.♔h1 ♔f7! 25.♗d5 ♔e7 26.♘f3 ♕h6 27.♘h2 ♖f4□∞] **21.♘f7 ♕f2 22.♔f2 ♖f8 23.♔g2 ♖f7 24.♗f7 ♔f7 25.♘d2 ♖e8 26.♖f1 ♔g6 27.♔f2 h5 28.♖g1 ♔f6 29.♔f3 g6 30.♘e4 ♔g7 31.♘f2! ♖f8 32.♔g2 ♖e8** [32...♖f5!? 33.♘d3 c5=] **33.♘d3 g5** [33...c5 34.♘f4±] **34.♘b4**



34...♖e2? [34...c5! 35.♘a6 (35.♘d5 ♔g6) 35...♖a8 36.♘c7 ♖a5 37.♘e8 ♔g6 38.♘d6 ♖a2 39.♖b1 b4 40.c4 b3! 41.♘e4 ♖a4 42.♘c5 ♖c4 43.♘b3 h4=∞] **35.♔h1!** [35.♔f3 ♖b2 36.♖a1 g4 37.♔e3 h4 38.♘a6 h3 39.♘c7 h2 40.a6 ♖a2!] **35...♖b2 36.♖a1!** [36.♘a6 ♖a2 37.♖g5 ♔f6 38.♖b5 c6 39.♖h5 ♔g6 40.♖h3 ♖a5 41.♘b8] **36...c5** [36...♖b3 37.♘a6 ♖c3 38.♘b4 ♖c4 39.♘d3! (39.a6? ♖b4 40.a7 ♖h4 41.♔g2 ♖g4 42.♔f3 ♖f4 43.♔e3 ♖f8 44.a8=♕ ♖a8 45.♖a8 ♔f6 46.♖b8 ♔e5 47.♖b5 c5 48.♖b8 d5∞; 39.♘d5? b4! Δ 40.a6 b3 41.a7 b2 42.a8=♕ ♖c1∓) 39...♖e4 40.a6 ♖e8 41.a7 ♖a8 42.♘b4 ♔f7 43.♘d5+–; 36...g4 37.♘a6 h4 38.♘c7 g3 39.a6 h3 40.a7 ♖h2 41.♔g1 ♖g2 42.♔f1 ♖f2 43.♔e1 ♖f8 44.♘e6+–] **37.♘a6 b4** [37...♖c2 38.♘c5+–]



38.♘b4! [38.cb4 cb4 39.♘c7 b3 40.♘e6! (40.a6 ♖a2) 40...♔f6 41.♘d4+–] **38...cb4 39.a6 bc3 40.a7 c2 41.a8=♕ ♖b1 42.♔g2 c1=♕ 43.♖a7 ♔f6 44.♕f8 ♔e5 45.♖e7 ♔d5** [45...♔d4 46.♕f2 ♔d3 47.♕f3 ♔d4 48.♕e4+–] **46.♕f3 ♔c5 47.♖c7 ♔b4 48.♕b7 ♔a5 49.♕a7 ♔b5 50.♕b8**

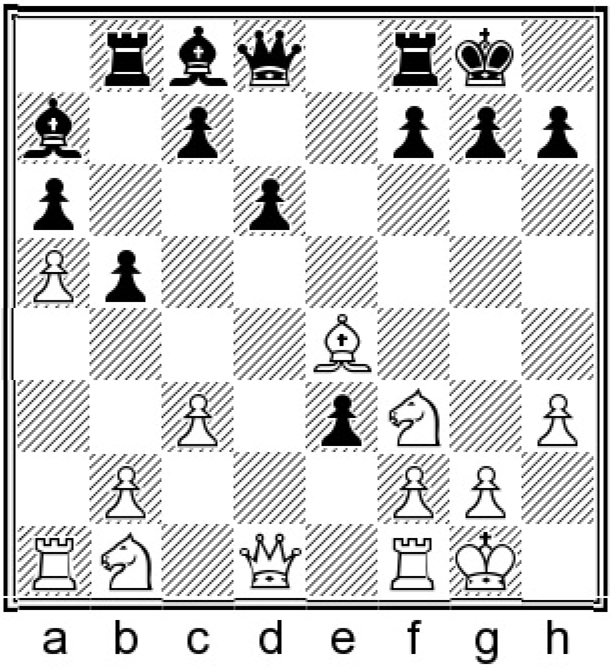
1 : 0 Jan-Krzysztof Duda

THE MOST IMPORTANT THEORETICAL NOVELTY OF THE PRECEDING VOLUME

Editors' Pick

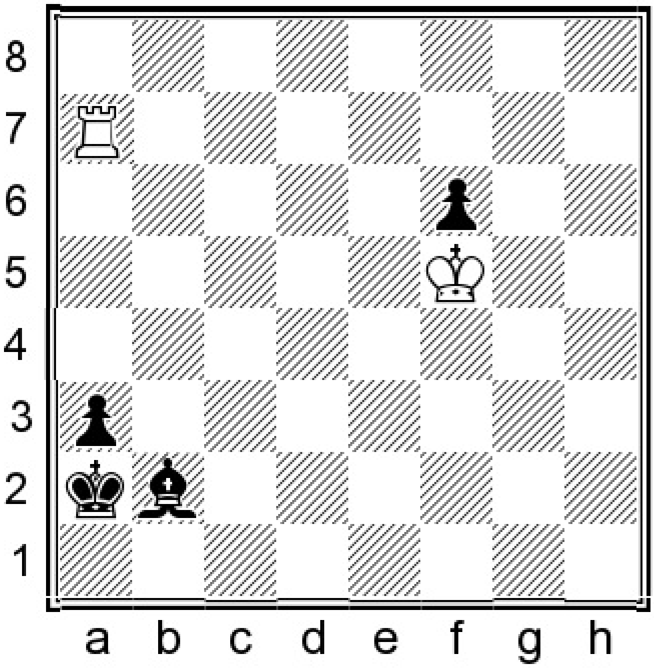
149/123. C78
S. P. SETHURAMAN 2644 — Viktor ERDŐS 2614
Biel (open) 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.0-0 b5 6.♗b3 ♗c5 7.a4 ♖b8 8.c3 d6 9.d4 ♗b6 10.a5 ♗a7 11.h3 0-0 12.♗e3 ♘e4 [12...ed4 – 145/110] **13.♗d5 ed4 14.♗c6** [14.♗e4 d5 15.♘d4 (15.♗h7 ♔h7 16.cd4 ♗f5∞) 15...♘d4 16.♗d4 c5 17.♗g7 ♔g7 18.♗d5 c4∞] **14...de3 15.♗e4**



15...♖e8! N [15...d5?! 16.♕d5⩲] **16.♕d3?!** [16.♕c2! ef2 (16...g6!? 17.fe3 d5 18.♗d3 ♖e3 19.♔h1 c5↑) 17.♔h1 ♕f6 18.♘bd2 g6 19.♘d4 ♕f4∞] **16...ef2** [16...g6! 17.♘d4 (17.fe3 ♗b7–+) 17...d5 18.♗f3 ef2 *a)* 19.♖f2 c5 20.♘e2 (20.♘c6 ♖e1 21.♖f1 c4–+) 20...d4 21.cd4 ♗f5 22.♕d2 cd4–+; *b)* 19.♔h1 ♕d6∓] **17.♔h1 ♕f6** [17...d5! *a)* 18.♗d5 ♗e6 19.c4 (19.♗e4 ♗c4 20.♕d8 ♖bd8–+) 19...c6–+; *b)* 18.♗h7 ♔h8 19.♘bd2 ♕f6∓; *c)* 18.♕d5 ♕e7 19.♘bd2 (19.♗c2 ♗b7 20.♕f5 g6 21.♕g4 ♗f3 22.♕f3 ♕e1–+) 19...♗b7 20.♕b7 ♖b7 21.♗b7 ♖b8 22.♗e4 ♖d8∓] **18.♘d4** [18.♘bd2] **18...c5** [18...d5!? 19.♗d5 c6 *a)* 20.♗e4? c5 21.♘f3 c4 22.♕c2 ♖b7!! 23.♗b7 (23.♖f2 ♖be7 24.♖e2 ♗h3!–+) 23...♗b7 24.♘bd2 ♕f4–+; *b)* 20.♗c6 ♖e1 21.♘d2 ♗d4 22.♕d4 ♕c6 23.♕f2 ♖f1 24.♖f1 ♗e6∞] **19.♘c6 c4 20.♕f3 ♖e4 21.♕e4 ♗b7 22.♘d2** [22.♕e7 *a)* 22...♕e7!? 23.♘e7 ♔f8 24.♘f5 g6 25.♘d4 (25.♘d6 ♗c6 26.♘d2 ♖d8 27.♘2e4 f5 28.♘f2 ♖d6=∞) 25...♖e8 26.♔h2 ♖e1 27.♘d2 ♗d4 28.cd4 ♖e2 29.♖ad1 f5 30.♔g3 ♔e7=∞; *b)* 22...♗c6 23.♕a7 ♗g2 24.♔g2 ♕g5 25.♔f2 ♕f4 26.♔g2 ♕g5=] **22...d5 23.♘e7 ♔f8 24.♘d5 ♕d6 25.♕h7 ♗d5 26.♖ad1?** [26.♘e4 ♗e4 27.♕h8 ♔e7 28.♕h4 g5 29.♕e4 ♕e6 30.♕f3∞] **26...♕f4?** [26...♕g3 27.♘e4 ♗e4 28.♕e4 ♖e8 29.♕f3 ♗b8 30.♕g3 ♗g3–+] **27.♕h5** [27.♘f3!? ♗f3

(27...♗e4 28.♕h8 ♔e7 29.♕g7 ♗f3 30.gf3 ♕f3 31.♕g2∞) 28.♖d7 ♗g2 29.♔g2 ♕g5 30.♔f3 ♕f6 31.♔g3 ♕g5 32.♔f3=] **27...♗c6 28.♘f3 ♗f3** [28...♔g8!?∞] **29.♕f3 ♕f3?** [29...g5!∞] **30.gf3 ♔e7 31.♔g2 ♖h8 32.♖d5 ♖h6 33.♖fd1?** [33.f4! ♖g6 34.♖g5 ♖f6 35.♖d1 ♖f4 36.♖gd5 f1=♕ (36...♔f6 37.♖d6 ♔g5 38.♖a6±) 37.♖f1 ♖f1 38.♔f1±] **33...♖g6 34.♔f1 ♖g1 35.♔e2 ♔e6= 36.♖d6 ♔e7 37.♖d7 ♔e6 38.♖7d6 ♔e7 39.♖d7 ♔e6 40.♖d8 ♔e7 41.♖8d2 g5 42.♖f1 f6 43.♖d5 ♗e3 44.♖fd1 ♗a7 45.♖5d2 ♗c5 46.♖f1 ♗a7 47.♖d5 ♗e3 48.h4!?** [48.♖fd1=] **48...gh4 49.♖h5 ♖f1 50.♔f1 ♔d6 51.f4??** [51.♖h8 ♗c1 (51...h3 52.♖h3 ♗c1 53.♔f2 ♗b2 54.f4 b4 55.cb4 c3 56.♖d3 ♔e6 57.♖e3 ♔d5 58.♖e2 ♔c4 59.♔e1 ♔b4 60.♔d1 ♔b3 61.f5=) 52.♖a8 h3 53.♖a6 ♔c5 54.♖f6 h2 55.♖f5 ♔c6 56.♖h5 ♗b2 57.♖h2 ♗c3 58.a6 (58.♖h6 ♔d5 59.a6 ♗d4 60.♖h5 ♔c6 61.♖h6 ♔d5=) 58...♗d4 59.♖f2 b4=] **51...♗f4??** [51...♗c1! *a)* 52.♖h6 ♗b2 53.♖f6 ♔d7 54.♖a6 ♗c3 55.♖b6 (55.♔f2 b4–+) 55...♗d4 56.♖b5 h3–+; *b)* 52.♖h4 ♗b2 53.♖h3 (53.♔f2 ♗c3 54.♔e2 ♗a5–+) 53...b4 54.cb4 c3 55.♖d3 ♔c6! 56.♖d8 ♔b5 57.♖c8 ♔b4 58.♔f2 ♔b3 59.♔e2 c2 60.♔d2 c1=♕ 61.♖c1 ♗c1 62.♔c1 ♔b4–+] **52.♖f5?!** [52.♔f2 ♗c1 53.♔e2 ♗b2 54.♔d2 ♗a3 55.♖h4 ♔c6 56.♖h6 ♗e7 57.♖h7 ♗d8 (57...♗c5 58.♖f7=) 58.♖a7=; 52.♖h8 ♗c1 53.♖a8 ♗b2 54.♖a6 ♔c5 (54...♔c7 55.♖b6 ♗c3 56.♖b5=) 55.♖f6 h3 56.a6 h2 57.♖h6 h1=♕ 58.♖h1 ♔b6=] **52...♗e5 53.♔f2??** [53.♖h5! ♗g3 (53...b4 54.cb4 ♗b2 55.♖c5 c3 56.♔f2 ♗a3 57.♖c3 ♗b4 58.♖h3 ♗a5 59.♖h4=; 53...♔c5 54.♖h4 b4 55.b3! cb3 56.♖b4 ♗c3 57.♖b3 ♗a5 58.♔f2=) 54.♖h7=] **53...h3 54.♖h5 h2 55.♔g2 ♔c5 56.♖h8 b4 57.♖c8 ♔b5 58.cb4 ♔b4** [58...♗b2 59.♔h2 c3 60.♔g2 ♔b4 61.♖c6 ♔a5 (61...♔b3?? 62.♖a6 c2 63.♖b6 ♔a4 64.♖c6 c1=♕ 65.♖c1 ♗c1 66.a6 ♗e3 67.♔f3 ♗a7 68.♔e4 ♔b5 69.♔f5=) 62.♔f3 ♔b5 63.♖c8 a5–+] **59.♖c6 ♔b5 60.♖c8 ♔a5 61.♖c4 ♗b2 62.♔h2 ♔b5 63.♖c8 ♗e5 64.♔g2 a5 65.♔f3 a4 66.♖a8 ♔b4 67.♖a7?** [67.♔e4 a3 68.♖a6! ♔b3 (68...♗b2 69.♔f5=) 69.♖b6 ♔c2 70.♖a6 ♗b2 71.♔f5 ♔b3 72.♖b6 ♔a2 73.♖a6 ♗e5 (73...♗c3 74.♔e4 ♔b3 75.♔d3=) 74.♔e4 ♔b2 75.♖b6 ♔a1 (75...♔c2 76.♖a6=) 76.♔d3 ♗b2 77.♔c2=] **67...a3 68.♔e4 ♔b3 69.♖b7 ♔c2! 70.♖a7 ♗b2 71.♔f5 ♔b3 72.♖b7 ♔a2 73.♖a7**



73...♗d4? [73...♗c3!! 74.♔e4 (74.♖b7 ♗e5 75.♖a7 ♔b2 76.♖b7 ♔a1–+) 74...♔b3 75.♔d3 ♗b4–+] **74.♖d7?** [74.♖a6 ♔b2 (74...♗e5 75.♔e4=) 75.♔e4=] **74...♗e5 75.♔e4** [75.♖b7 ♔a1–+] **75...♔b1**

76.♖b7 ♗b2
0 : 1 Miloš Perunović

C78

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12.♖e1 ♗b7 13.♗e3 1 ed4 14.cd4 ♘e7 15.e5 2 ♘fd5 3 16.♗g5 de5 17.de5 ♖e8 4 18.♘c3 ♘b4 5 19.♕e2 ♕d3 20.♖ad1 ♕e2± 6
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1

13.♗g5 h6 14.♗h4
a) 14...ed4 15.cd4 g5 16.♗g3 ♖e8 17.♘c3 b4 18.♘d5 ♘d5 19.♗d5 ♘d4!
a1) 20.♘d4?! ♗d5 21.♕d3 ♕f6 22.♘f5 ♗e6 [22...♗b7 23.♖ac1⯹ Ernesto Inarkiev 2707 – Rustam Kasimdzhanov 2690, Türkiye 2012] 23.♕a6 ♗c5 24.♕c6 h5∓;
a2) 20.♗b7 ♘f3 21.♕f3 ♖b7 22.e5
a21) 22...d5?! 23.e6! c6 [23...fe6 24.♕h5+–] 24.♕f5 ♗d4 25.ef7 ♖f7 26.♕g6 ♗g7 27.♗e5 ♖ef8 28.♗g7 ♖g7 29.♕c6+– Felix Blohberger 2434 – Inna Agrest 2258, Deutschland 2019;
a22) 22...♖b8 23.♖e4 de5 24.♖d1 ♕c8 25.♖e5 ♖e5 26.♗e5 ♕e6 27.♗c7 ♖e8=;
b) 14...g5 15.♗g3 ♖e8
b1) 16.h4?! g4 17.♘h2 ♗c8 [17...♕d7 18.d5 ♘e7 19.♘d2 ♘g6∞ Anastasia Bodnaruk 2449 – Khanim Balajayeva 2376, Iaşi 2021] 18.d5 ♘e7 19.♘d2 ♘g6∓;
b2) 16.de5 ♘e5 17.♗c2 ♘h5 18.♘e5 [18.♗h2?! ♘f3 19.♕f3 ♕f6 20.♘d2 ♘f4= Max Warmerdam 2475 – Lena Georgescu 2200, Teplice 2019; 18...♕f6∓] 18...♘g3 19.♘g4 ♘e4 20.♕f3 ♔g7 21.♖e4! ♗e4 22.♗e4 d5 23.♘d2□ 23...de4 24.♘e4 ♖e4 [24...♖e6 25.♖d1 ♕e7 26.♘g3 ♔f8 27.♔h2∞] 25.♕e4 ♕d6=

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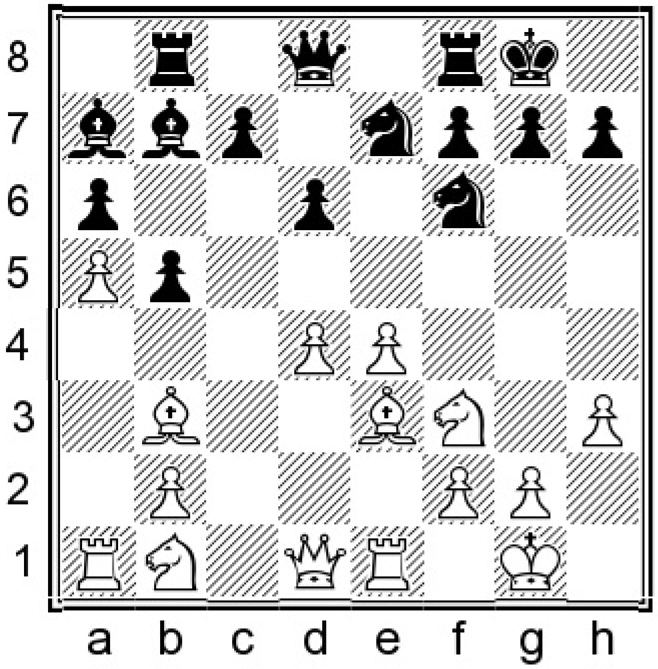

15.♘bd2

a) 15...♗e4 16.♗g5 [16.♘e4 ♘e4 17.♕c2 d5 18.♘e5 ♕d6∓ Yu Yangyi 2759 – Peter Svidler 2753, Shenzhen (m/7-rapid) 2018] 16...♗g6 17.♗f6 gf6 18.♘e4 ♘f5∞;

b) 15...♘g6 16.d5 [16.♗c2 ♖e8 17.♕b1 ♕e7 18.d5 ♗e3 19.♖e3 c6 20.dc6 ♗c6 21.b4 ♖bc8 22.♕b2 ♗b7= Jules Moussard 2598 – Marc'Andria Maurizzi 2404, Vandoeuvre-lès-Nancy 2019] 16...♗e3 17.♖e3 c6 18.dc6 ♗c6 19.♗c2 ♖e8 20.♖e1 [20.b4] 20...♗b7⇄ [×e4] 21.b4 ♘h5 22.♖a3 ♘hf4 23.♘f1 ♕f6 24.♘g3 ♖bd8 25.♖ae3 ♘e5 26.♗b3 g6 27.♘h2 h5 28.♘e2 ♘c4 29.♗c4 bc4 30.♘f4 ♕f4= Pentala Harikrishna 2732 – Fabiano Caruana 2823, Wijk aan Zee 2021 – 147/116;

15.d5 ♗e3 16.♖e3 c6 17.♘c3 b4 18.dc6 ♗c6 19.♘d5 ♗d5 20.ed5 ♖b5 21.♕d2 ♖c5∞ Florian Jenni 2543 – Guillermo Carvalho 2249, Dresden (ol) 2008

3

15...♘e4 (Lei Tingjie 2505 – Sarasadat Khademalsharieh 2494, chess.com (Internet-rapid) 2020) 16.♘c3 [16.e6 f5 17.♘c3±] 16...de5 [16...♘c3 17.bc3 de5 18.♘e5±] 17.♘e4 [17.♘e5±] 17...♗e4 18.♗g5 ♗f3 19.♕f3 h6 20.♗h4±

4

17...♕e8 18.♘c3 ♘c3 19.bc3±;

17...h6 18.♗d5 hg5 19.♗b7 ♕d1 20.♖d1 ♖b7 21.♖d7 ♘c6 22.♘c3±

5

18...♘c3 19.bc3 ♕d1 20.♖ad1±

6

21.♖e2±

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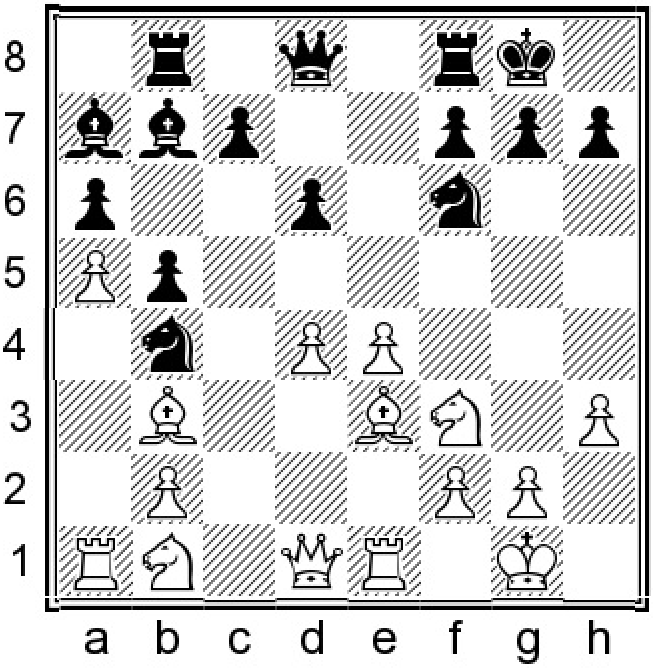


15.♗g5 h6 16.♗h4 c5

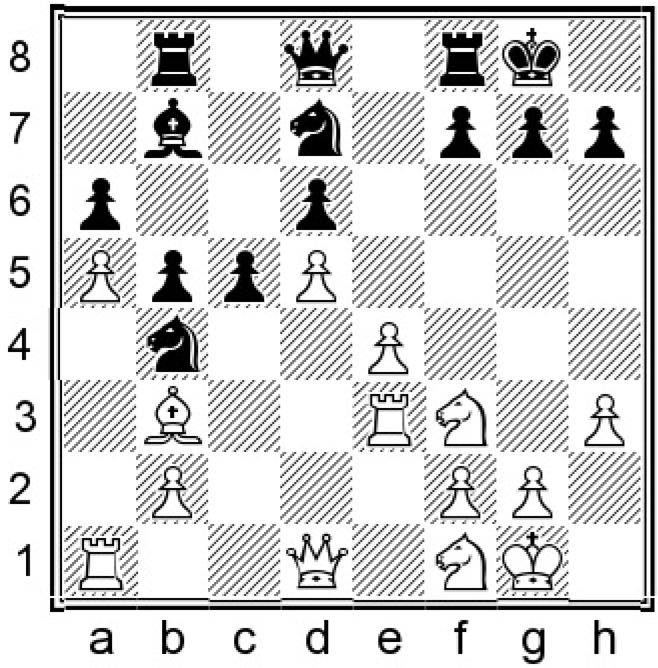
a) 17.♕d2?! ♖e8 18.♘c3 c4 19.♗c2 [19.♗d1 ♘d3∓ Radosław Psyk 2375 – Igor Janik 2489, Polska 2020] 19...♘c2 20.♕c2 g5 21.♘g5 hg5 22.♗g5 b4 23.e5 de5 24.de5 ♕d3–+ Praveen Balakrishnan 2507 – Andrew Hong 2474, USA 2021;

b) 17.♘c3 ♖e8 18.d5 c4 19.♗c2 ♘c2 20.♕c2 g5 21.♗g3 ♖c8∞ Martí Bas Fortuny – Trevor Adamson, corr.2020;

15.♘c3 ♗e4 16.♘e4 [16.♗g5 ♗g6 17.♘e4 ♗e4 18.♖e4 h6 19.♗f6 ♕f6∞] 16...♘e4 17.♖c1 [17.d5 ♗c5 18.♗d4 ♖e8 19.♖e3 ♕d7 20.♕e1 ♘f6∓ Robby Kevlishvili 2451 – Alireza Firouzja 2669, Reykjavík 2019] 17...♖c8 18.♗c2 d5 [18...♘c2 19.♕c2 ♘f6 20.♕c6±] 19.♗b1∞

8

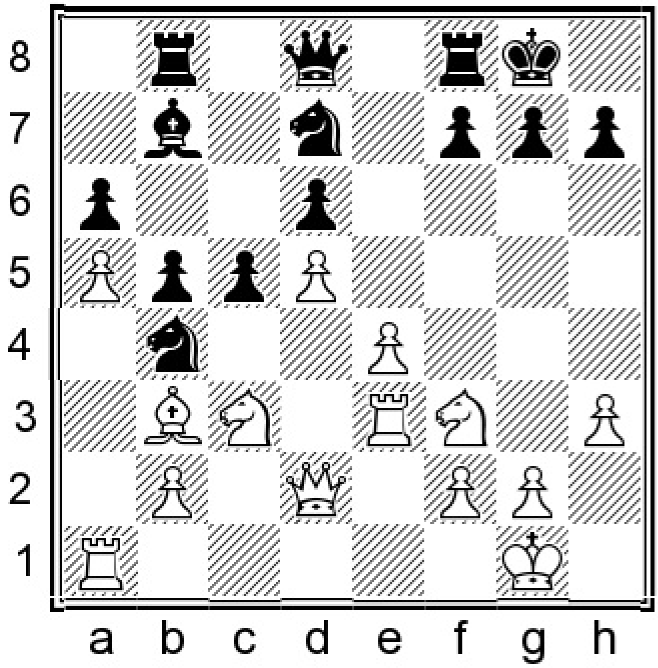
17.♘bd2 ♘d7 [17...♖e8 18.♕b1 ♗c8 19.♘f1 ♘h5 20.♕e1 ♖b7 (Ilyass Msellek 2316 – Nino Batsiashvili 2466, Sitges 2020) 21.♕d2 ♖be7 22.♖ae1 ♕a5 23.e5∞] 18.♗c2 [18.♘f1



18...f5! 19.ef5 c4 20.♗c2 ♘d5 21.♖e1 ♘c5 22.♕d2 ♕f6∓ Roman Sapozhnikov 2153 – Joshua Friedel 2516, Toronto 2009] 18...♕f6 19.♖b1 ♖be8 20.♘f1 ♘e5 21.♘3d2 g6∓ Rafał Antoniewski 2512 – Duško Pavasovič 2597, Österreich 2007 – 101/(242);

17.♘c3

a) 17...♘d7 18.♕d2



a1) 18...f5 19.ef5 ♖f5 20.♖ae1 c4 [20...♘f6 21.g4! ♖f4 22.♘g5 ♖d4 23.♕e2±] 21.♖e8 ♕e8 22.♖e8 ♖e8 23.♘b5 ab5 24.♕b4 cb3 25.♕b5 ♗c8 26.a6±;

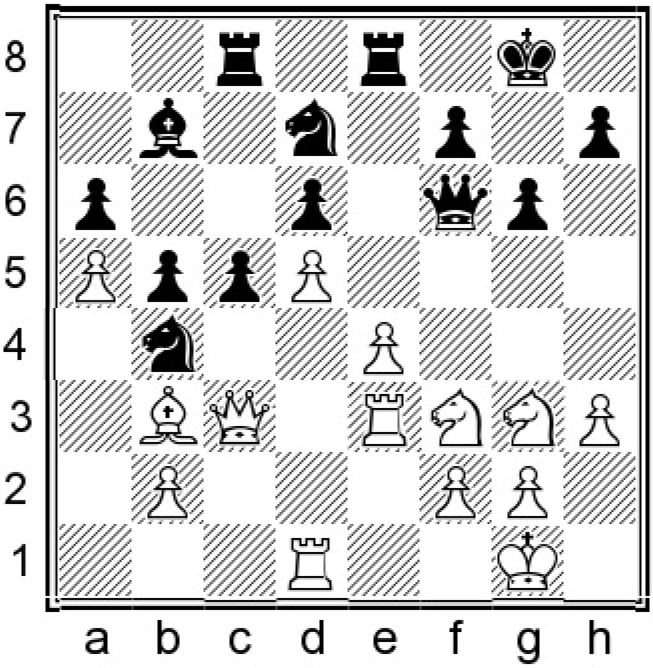
a2) 18...♖e8 19.♘e2!

a21) 19...♕f6 20.♘g3 [20.♖f1 ♖e7 21.♘g3 g6∞ Dušan Popović 2557 – Daniel Hartl 2242, Lienz 2011] 20...g6 21.♖ae1 [21.♖d1!?] 21...♕d8 22.♕c3 [22.e5? ♘e5 23.♘e5 de5 24.♖e5 ♖e5 25.♖e5 ♘c6!

26.♖e3 ♘d4 27.♘e4 ♖c8∞] 22...♖c8 [22...♕a5 23.e5 c4 24.e6 fe6 25.de6 ♘c5 26.♘g5+–] 23.♖d1!? [23.♘h2 ♕f6 24.♘g4 ♕c3 25.bc3 c4! 26.cb4 cb3 27.♖b3 h5 28.♘h2 ♗d5∞]

a211) 23...♕a5 24.e5 c4 [24...de5 25.♘e5 ♘e5 26.♖e5 c4 27.♘e4 ♖e5 28.♕e5 cb3 29.♘f6 ♔f8 30.d6±] 25.e6 fe6 26.de6 ♘e5 27.♗c2! ♘f3 [27...♖e6 28.♘g5→] 28.gf3 ♘c6 29.♕f6 ♖f8 30.♕h4→;

a212) 23...♕f6



24.e5! de5 [24...♘e5 25.♘e4 ♕d8 26.♘e5 ♖e5 27.f4 ♖f5 28.♖de1! f6 29.♘g3 ♖f4 30.♖e7±] 25.♘e4 ♕e7 26.d6

a2121) 26...♕d8!? 27.♘c5 ♘c5 28.♕b4 ♗f3 [28...e4 29.♘h2 ♘d7 30.♘g4±] 29.♖f3±;

a2122) 26...♕f8 27.♘c5 ♘c5

a21221) 28.♕b4 (Peter Svidler 2732 – Duško Pavasovič 2597, Khanty-Mansiysk (m/1) 2007 – 101/242) 28...e4! 29.♘g5 ♘b3 30.♕b3 ♖cd8 [30...♖ed8 31.♕b4 ♖c4 32.♕d2± Δ b3] 31.♕b4 ♖d7 32.♘e4 ♖e4 33.♖e4 ♗e4 34.♕e4 ♖d6=;

a21222) 28.♘e5 ♘b3 29.♕b3 ♘d5 30.♖d5 ♗d5 31.♕d5±;

a22) 19...♕e7 20.♘g3 g6 21.♖ae1 ♘e5 22.♘e5 ♕e5 23.♘e2± Andrei Istrăţescu 2609 – Gergely Kántor 2415, Graz 2016;

a3) 18...c4!? 19.♘b5!? [19.♘e2 ♘d5 20.ed5 cb3∞; 19.♗d1 ♘d3 20.♘a2 f5∞] 19...cb3 [19...♘d5 20.ed5 ab5 21.♗c2 ♘f6 22.a6 ♗d5 23.♘d4±] 20.♕b4 ab5 [20...♗c8 21.♘fd4 ♘c5 22.♘c6 ♖b5 23.♕b5 ab5 24.♘d8 ♖d8 25.e5 de5 26.♖c1±] 21.♕d6=∞;

b) 17...♖e8! 18.♕d2= – 17.♕d2;

17.♕e1 ♘d7 18.g4 ♖e8 19.♕c3 ♘f8∞ Yuri Solodovnichenko 2582 – Stelios Halkias 2580, Srbija 2007 – 101/(242);

17.♘a3 ♕a5 18.♘c2 ♕b6 19.♘b4 cb4 20.♕d2 a5 21.♘d4 ♖be8 22.♗c2 g6∞ Friso Nijboer 2584 – Surya Shektar Ganguly 2651, Wijk aan Zee II 2011

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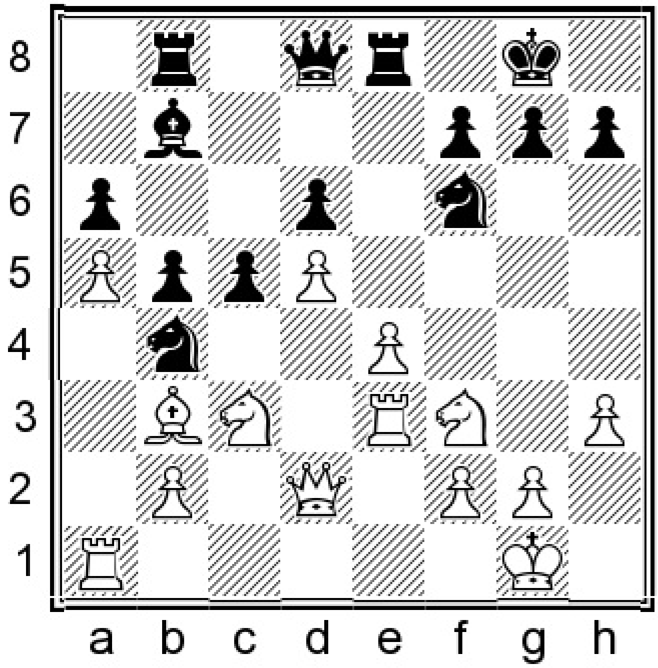

18...c4 19.♗c2 ♘c2 20.♕c2 ♘d7=

10

19...♘c2 20.♕c2 ♘d7=

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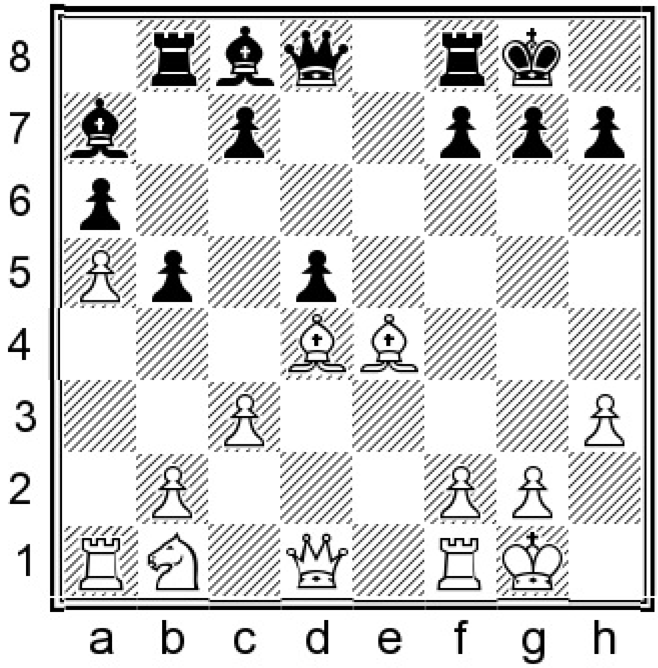
Artyom Timofeev 2637 – Ernesto Inarkiev 2674, Russia (ch) 2007 – 101/(242)

12

13.♖e1 ed4 14.cd4 d5 15.♕c1 ♗b7 16.♘c3 ♘b4∓ Alexandra Kosteniuk 2517 – Viswanathan Anand 2788, Moscow (blitz) 2009

13

14.♗e4 d5 15.♘d4 [15.♗h7 ♔h7 16.cd4 ♗f5∞] 15...♘d4 16.♗d4



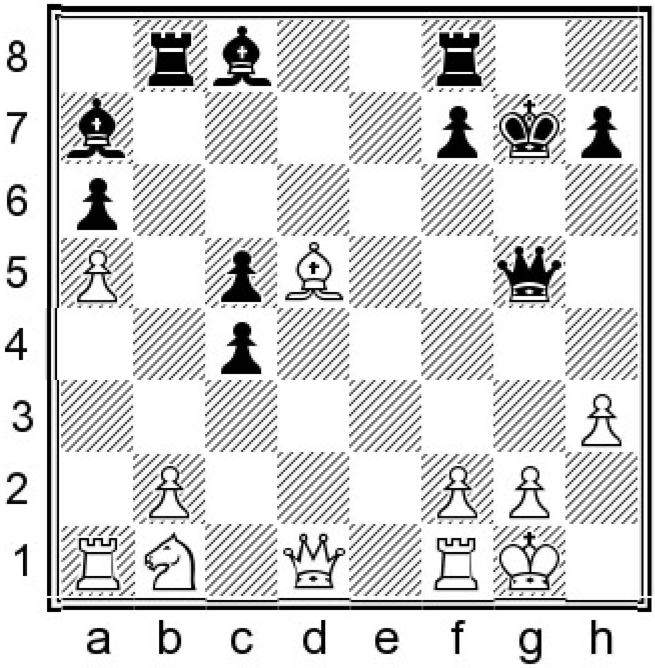
a) 16...♗d4 17.♗h7! ♔h7 18.cd4 [18.♕d4 ♕f6 19.♘d2 b4 20.♕d5 bc3 21.bc3 ♖b5 22.♕f3 ♕g6 23.♖a4 ♗b7 24.♕g3 ♕g3 25.fg3 ♖d8 26.♖f2 f6=∞ Viswanathan Anand 2801 – Alexei Shirov 2739, Moscow (blitz) 2007] 18...♕f6 19.♘c3 c6 20.♖e1 ♗b7 21.♘a2! ♖be8 22.♕c2 g6 23.♕c5 ♕d8 24.♘b4 ♖e1 25.♖e1 ♖e8 26.♖e5± Wilhelm Brinkmann – Ireneusz Nowak, corr.2010;

b) 16...c5 17.♗g7 ♔g7 18.♗d5;

b1) 18...c4∞

b2) 18...♕f6 19.c4 ♕b2 20.♖a3 ♗f5 21.♖g3 ♗g6 22.h4 ♔h8 23.h5 ♗b1 24.♕b1 ♕b1 25.♖b1 b4 26.♖f3 f5 27.♔f1±;

b3) 18...♕g5 19.c4 bc4

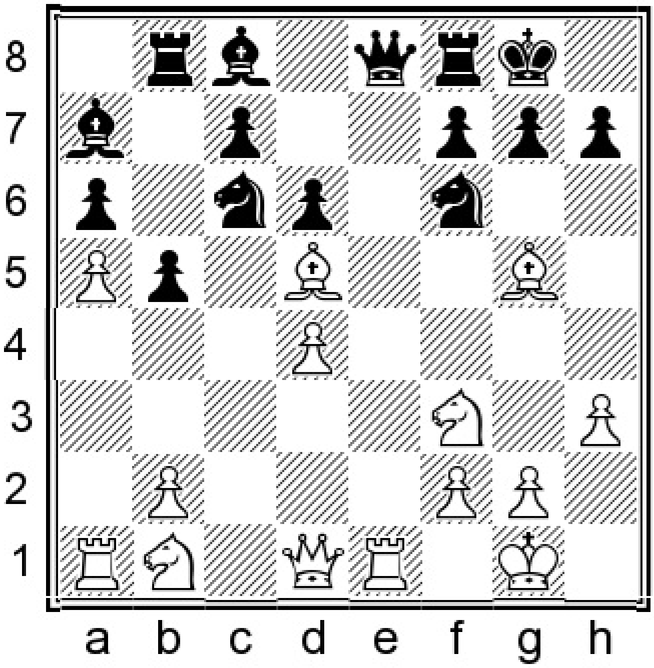


20.♖a3!

b31) 20...♔h8 21.♖g3 ♕f4 (Sergei Zhigalko 2562 – Alexander Grischuk 2715, Kemer 2007) 22.♘c3 ♗f5 [22...♖b2?! 23.♕a1+–] 23.♖e1±;

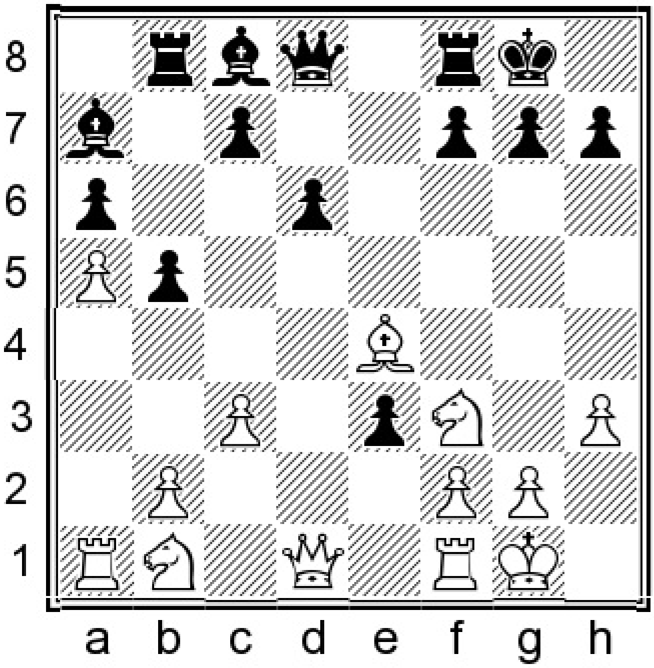
b32) 20...♖b3 21.♖b3 cb3 22.♕b3±;

14.cd4 ♕e8 15.♖e1 ♘f6 16.♗g5



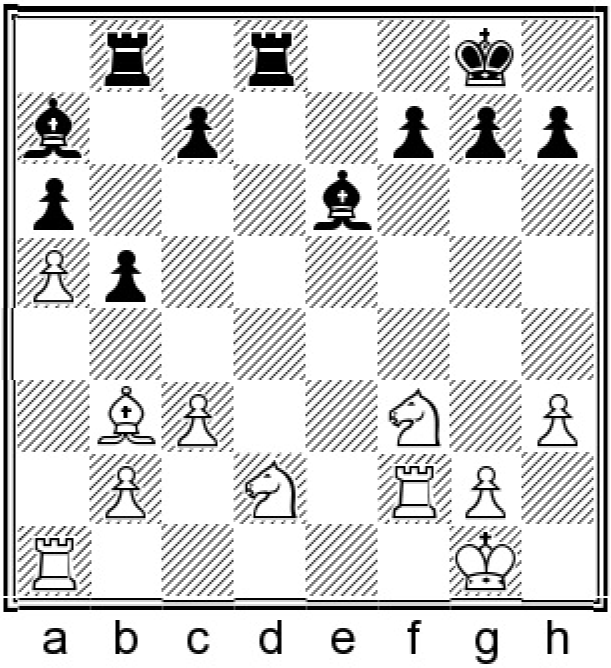
16...♘d5! 17.♖e8 ♖e8 18.♘c3 ♗e6 19.♕d2 (Kutwal Shashikant 2241 – Abhimanyu Puranik 2452, India 2016) 19...b4 20.♘d5 ♗d5⩱

14



15...d5?! 16.♕d5 ef2

a) 17.♖f2 ♕d5 18.♗d5 ♖d8 19.♗b3 ♗e6 20.♘bd2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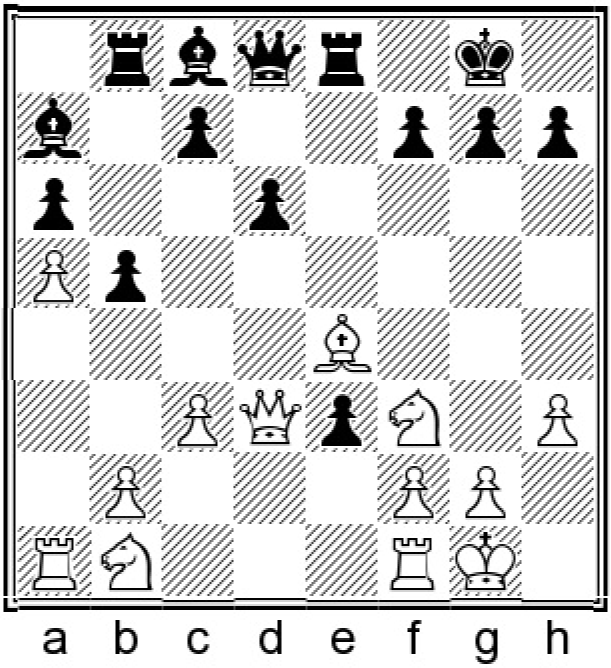
a1) 20...♗f2? 21.♔f2 ♗b3 22.♘b3± Anuar Ismagambetov 2528 – Alexei Shirov 2684, Moscow (rapid) 2019;

a2) 20...♖d2! 21.♘d2 ♖d8 22.♗e6 ♖d2 23.♗f7 ♔f8 24.♖af1 ♗f2 25.♖f2 ♖f2 26.♔f2 ♔f7= Goran Arsović;

b) 17.♔h1 ♕d5 18.♗d5 ♖d8 19.♗e4 f5 20.♗c2 ♗b7 21.♘bd2±

15

16.♕d3?!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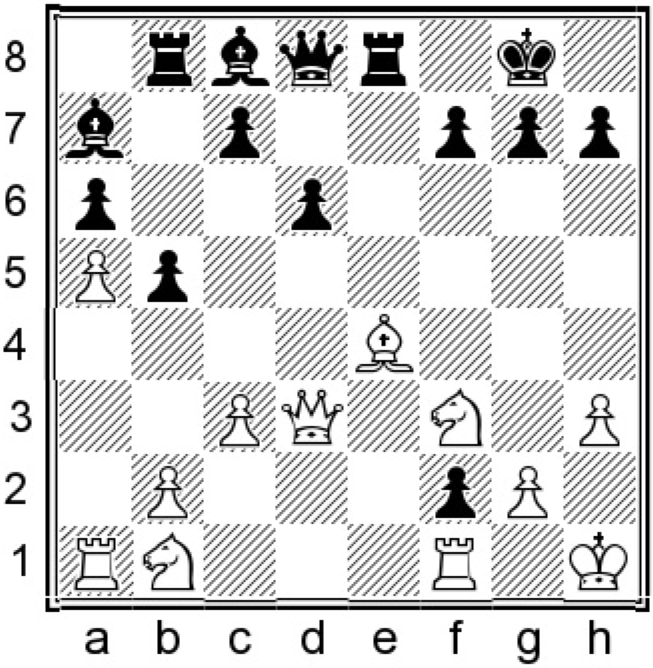
a) 16...ef2 17.♔h1 (S. P. Sethuraman 2644 – Viktor Erdős 2614, Biel (open) 2021 – 149/123)



17...d5!

a1) 18.♗d5 ♗e6 19.c4 [19.♗e4 ♗c4 20.♕d8 ♖bd8–+] 19...c6–+;

a2) 18.♗h7 ♔h8 19.♘bd2 ♕f6∓;

a3) 18.♕d5 ♕e7 19.♘bd2 [19.♗c2 ♗b7 20.♕f5 g6 21.♕g4 ♗f3 22.♕f3 ♕e1–+] 19...♗b7 20.♕b7 ♖b7 21.♗b7 ♖b8 22.♗e4 ♖d8∓;

b) 16...g6! 17.♘d4 [17.fe3 ♗b7–+] 17...d5 18.♗f3 ef2

b1) 19.♖f2 c5 20.♘e2 [20.♘c6 ♖e1 21.♖f1 c4–+] 20...d4 21.cd4 ♗f5 22.♕d2 cd4–+;

b2) 19.♔h1 ♕d6∓

16

16...ef2 17.♔h1 ♕f6 18.♘bd2 g6 19.♘d4 ♕f4∞

17

17.fe3 d5 18.♗d3 ♖e3 19.♔h1 c5↑

18

18.♘c6 ef2 19.♖f2 [19.♔h1? ♕h4–+] 19...♗f2 20.♕f2 ♕d6 21.♘b8 de4 22.♕d4 ♕e7∞

19

Goran Arsović

FIDE CHESS.COM GRAND SWISS

By GM L'ubomír Ftáčnik

Tournament Report

L'ubomír Ftáčnik

- **Country:** Slovensko
- **Born:** 1957
- **Rating:** 2508
- **Peak rating:** 2618
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 1980

The chess world has witnessed a very unusual period ever since the outbreak of world wide COVID-19 pandemics in March 2020. The OTB tournaments have quite rapidly died off, while the best players have quickly moved online and adjusted to manifold tournaments, many organised under the umbrella of the World Champion Magnus Carlsen.

The easing of the situation in the summer 2020 has seen some resumption of particular events, but the fall and winter killed the joy again. For the first time in history it was not the war conflict that caused cancelling of chess Olympiad. The tentative move to 2021 was also called off and the hope is for the renewal in 2022 in Moscow. The Candidates Tournament was played in two parts a whole year apart, as nothing similar was ever needed in the past.

The year 2021 had Wijk aan Zee, Stavanger, Zagreb, Bucuresti and Praha Super Tournaments, with Zagreb and Paris staging great rapid and/blitz events, but the situation is far from normal. The emergence of FIDE Grand Swiss in Latvija for men and women has promised 100 (in women event 50) best players in the world. Men were fighting for two spots at the next Candidate Tournament plus a respectable prize fund of 425.000 dollars. The parade of the best players was expected with great joy, as top level chess has won quite a following.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is ruling the life in Europe again and for the tense 48 hours it was not clear, if such a prestigious event can win exception from complete lockdown imposed by the Latvian Government few days before the start. In the end the organisers managed, but the conditions were quite restrictive – no freedom of movement (not even to buy bottle of water in the shop), the players were practically cut off from the outside world and obliged to run repetitive Covid tests...

Tournament Hall, Riga 2021; Photo by Mark Livshitz

The good news are mostly related to chess, as the scenario of the event was written in "Chess Holywood". The best junior in the world Alireza Firouzja has just emigrated from Iran to France. France Chess Federation has finally bowed to the inevitable, so the man sitting on the 1st board for the whole event could sport a proud flag other than the FIDE fig leaf. The hero of the hour has lost to Caruana in the round 9, but managed to win with 8/11 performing to the tune of 2840. Most of the readers will understand without me spelling it – if everything follows the expectations Firouzja is clearly a World Champion material. In the first round he demonstrated the lightness of his extremely efficient touch (Firouzja - Abasov).

The runner up grabbing the second candidate spot is Fabiano Caruana, who already had a pleasure to meet Carlsen in a match. Several players have successfully followed a strategy of not losing a game, but only Caruana and surprise winner (best of the rest) Grigoriy Oparin scored 4 victories each.

Caruana should be happy about his comeback, since he lost some spark during pandemics and avoided online events. His creative side is clearly visible in attempts to overcome clever defence in the very 1st round (Caruana – Chigaev).

The "accidental hero" of the Grand Swiss is less well known, but very tough man. His success was born between rounds 7-10 with 3 wins also against celebrated players like Dubov and the new Russian Champion Vitiugov. Oparin managed to shine with diligent, creative play (Vitiugov – Oparin).

Maxime Vachier-Lagrave did not manage to win the Candidates, and expressed his concern in one interview that best years may be running out and he may lose his exceptional efficiency in sharp positions. Clinching 5th place in this super event is certainly respectable, as was his creative play overall (Vachier-Lagrave – Demchenko).

The treasure trove of fascinating games between top players is impossible to present in any comprehensive way. I took the liberty to include the game with fascinating content Sarana - Praggnanandhaa, instructive, creative and amusing are only few of the superlatives that could be attached to this games.

Dear Informant readers, now I present you my commentary of the games.

RIGA, X–XI 2021
The 2021 FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss Tournament

(108 players, 11 rounds)

Time Control: 100 minutes for 40 moves, followed by 50 minutes for 20 moves and then 15 minutes to the end of the game, plus a 30 seconds increment starting from move 1.

> 1. A. Firouzja* (FRA) 8, 2. F. Caruana* (USA) 7½ [67.0***/72.5/49.75], 3. G. Oparin** (RUS) 7½ [63.5/68.5/45.75], 4. Yu Yangyi** (CHN) 7 [66.5/72.0/44.50], 5. V. Keymer** (GER) 7 [65.5/70.0/43.25], 6. Vachier-Lagrave** (FRA) 7 [65.0/70.0/43.50], 7. Predke** (RUS) 7 [64.5/70.0/42.25], 8. A. Shirov** (ESP) 7 [64.5/68.5/41.50], 9—16. D. Howell (ENG), Sargissian (ARM), Antón Guijarro (ESP), A. Korobov (UKR), S. Sevian (USA), An. Esipenko (RUS), B.-D. Deac (ROU), V. Artemiev (RUS) 7, 17—30. Man. Petrosyan (ARM), Nihal Sarin (IND), Daniil Dubov (RUS), Kuzubov (UKR), Vl. Fedoseev (RUS), Sjugirov (RUS), Vitiugov (RUS), Y. Kryvoruchko (UKR), Grandelius (SWE), Aronian (ARM), Jef. Xiong (USA), A. Sarana (RUS), K. Alekseenko (RUS), P. Harikrishna (IND) 6½, 31—46. Sasikiran (IND), P. Ponkratov (RUS), Najer (RUS), K. Shevchenko (UKR), D. Świercz (USA), Iv. Šarić (CRO), Ter-Sahakyan (ARM), P. Maghsoodloo (IRI), Mus. En. Yilmaz (TUR), Eljanov (UKR), A. Volokitin (UKR), J. Moussard (FRA), C. Henríquez Villagra (CHI), J. van Foreest (NED), Zvjaginsev (RUS), M. Al. Antipov (RUS) 6, etc.

* Qualified for the 2022 FIDE Candidates Tournament

** Qualified for the FIDE Grand Prix Tournaments which will be held in Berlin and Belgrade in 2022.

*** Tie Break 1 — Buchholz Cut 1/Tie Break 2 — Buchholz/Tie Break 3 — Sonneborn-Berger

B81
Caruana, Fabiano (2800) - Chigaev, Maksim (2639)
Riga, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.h3 e6 7.g4 h6 8.a3 ♗e7 9.♗e3 ♘c6 10.♖g1

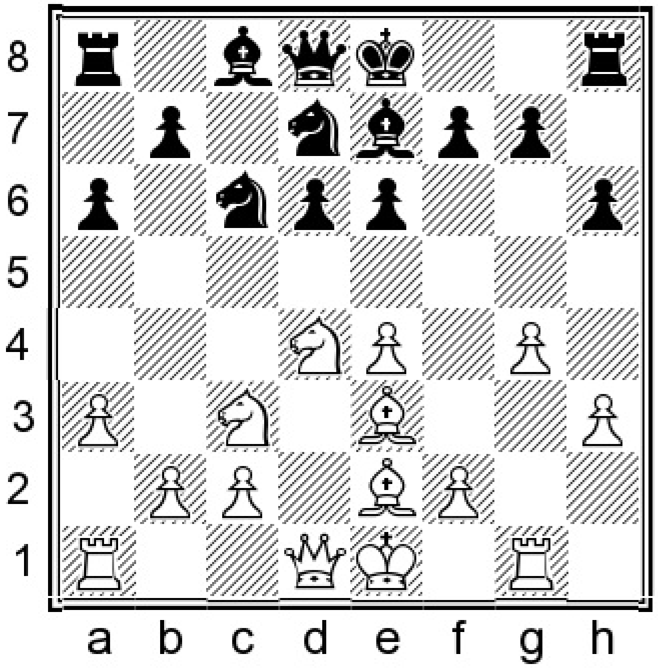
Caruana has worked a lot on openings, so we have to accept his preference for the rook move instead of the most natural 10.Bg2.

10.♕e2 ♘xd4 11.♗xd4 e5 12.♗e3 b5 13.O-O-O ♗b7 14.♗g2 ♖c8 15.h4 ♖xc3 16.bxc3 ♕a5 17.♔b2 ♘xe4 18.♗xe4 ♗xe4 19.♗b6 ♕a4∓ Gajewski,Grzegorz 2596 - Wojtaszek,Radoslaw 2694, Polska (ch) 2021

10.♗g2 O-O 11.f4 d5 12.e5 ♘d7 13.O-O ♘xd4 14.♗xd4 b6 15.♔h1 a5 16.g5 ♗a6 17.♖f2 g6 18.gxh6 ♗h4 19.♖d2 ♔h7 20.♕g4 ♕e7 21.♖g1± Narayanan,Srinath 2565 - Xu,Yinglun 2533, India - China (m) 2018

10...♘d7 11.♗e2

11.h4 ♘de5=



11...g5!? Chigaev goes for the move that clearly underlines White's excessive control of the light squares compared with very meagre work on the dark ones. The only downside of this idea is it's onesidedness, since Black is fighting imbalance with one of his own.

11...♖b8 12.♕d2 ♘xd4 13.♗xd4 ♗g5 14.♗e3 b5 15.O-O-O±

12.♕d2 ♘ce5 13.O-O-O b5 The idea of Nb6-c4 is lurking under the surface, but Black needs to make sure that the development of pieces is his first priority.

13...♘b6?! 14.♘b3 ♘bc4 15.♗xc4 ♘xc4 16.♕d4 ♘e5 17.f4 gxf4 18.♗xf4±

14.h4 ♗b7

14...gxh4? 15.f4 ♘c4 16.♗xc4 bxc4 17.♘c6+-;

14...♘b6 15.hxg5 hxg5 16.♖h1±

15.hxg5 hxg5 16.♖h1 ♖g8 The rule of exchanges (benefit!) easily resolves the situation. The retreat of the rook is necessary. On the other hand, White gains more time to double the rooks on the h-file and achieve some progress.

16...♖xh1 17.♖xh1 ♗f6 18.♖h5±

17.♖h5

17.♘b3 ♕c7 18.f3 ♘b6 19.♘a5 ♘bd7 20.♘a2±

17...♖c8 Both players can look for improvements in their play. Doubling the knight threat of jump to c4 could have been more tricky for the opponent.

17...♘b6!? 18.♕e1 ♖c8 19.♔b1⩲

18.♖dh1 ♗f6 19.f3 Caruana has surely ways of hurting his opponent with a timely blow. Cementing the centre is a cautious approach, since the dynamic sacrifice on b5 is crucially hampered by the vulnerability of the e4-pawn.

19.♘dxb5 axb5 20.♘xb5 ♖c6! 21.♘xd6+ ♖xd6 22.♕xd6 ♗xe4 23.f3! (23.♗b5? ♕c8∓; 23.♖1h3 ♕c8 24.♕d1 ♕b7∓) 23...♗xf3 24.♗b5 ♕e7 25.♕b8+ ♕d8 26.♕d6=;

19.♖h6!?

19...♕e7

19...♘b6! 20.b3 d5=

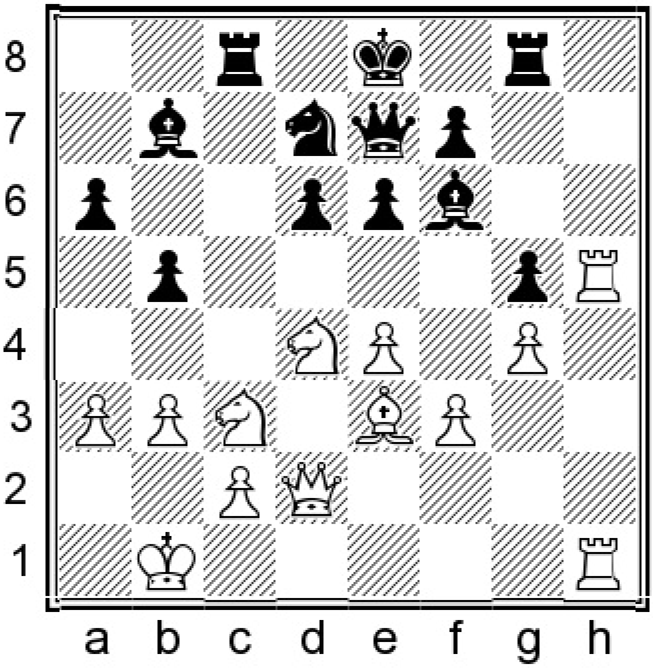
20.♔b1?!

20.♘b3!±

20...♘c4?! It is no wonder, that the lesser player will typically blink first. Black could have hold his horses and let White show a sign of tension and some outlines of attack on the enemy army.

20...♘b6 21.b3 ♘ed7 22.♘cxb5 axb5 23.♘xb5 d5 24.e5 ♗xe5 25.♗xg5 ♖xg5 26.♖xg5 ♕c5 27.f4 ♗f6⩲

21.♗xc4 ♖xc4 22.b3 ♖c8



23.♘d5?! My late friend Kavalek used to compare movies and chess - united by importance of perfect timing! Caruana sees the opportunity to significantly rock the opponent, but it does not give him advantage. Patience was called for, promising better chances for White.

23.♖1h3 ♘e5 24.♖h7±

23...exd5

23...♗xd5? 24.exd5+-

24.♘f5 ♕e6

24...♕e5 25.♗d4 ♕e6 26.♖h6±

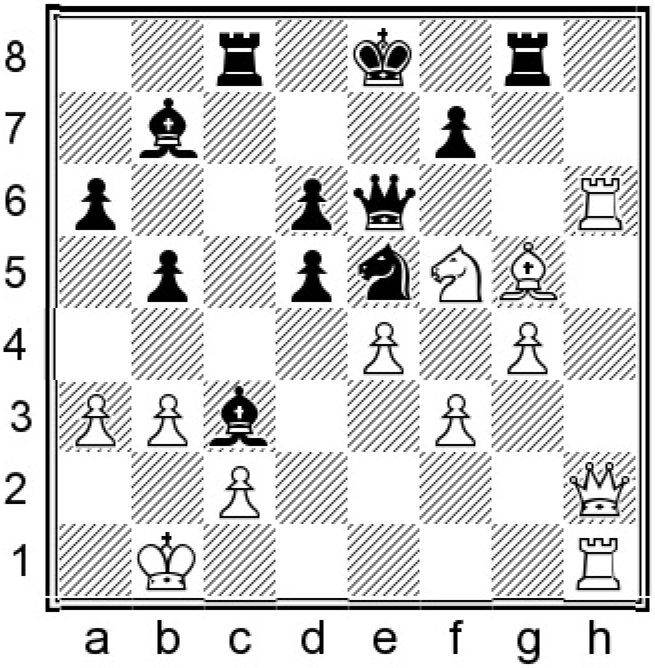
25.♗xg5 ♗c3 Once again the defender in a dynamically charged position fails to find a way to tame opponent's advances. A clever sacrifice of exchange would reduce White's attacking potential and enable Black to improve his pieces in a crucial way.

25...♖xg5! 26.♖xg5 ♘e5 27.♖g8+ ♔d7 28.♖xc8 ♘xf3 29.♕f4 ♗xc8 30.♕xf3 ♕e5 31.c3 dxe4=

26.♕h2 ♘e5

26...♗e5 27.f4 ♗f6 28.♖h6 (28.♗xf6 ♘xf6 29.♖h6) 28...d4 29.♗xf6 ♘xf6 30.e5 (30.♕h4? ♗xe4∓) 30...dxe5 31.fxe5 ♕d5 32.♘d6+ ♔d7 33.♖g1 d3 (33...♘xg4? 34.♖xg4 ♖xg4 35.e6++-) 34.♘xc8 dxc2+ 35.♔a2 ♖xc8 36.♖xf6 c1=Q 37.♖xc1 ♖xc1 38.♖d6+±; 26...♖g6 27.♗d2 ♘e5 28.exd5 ♗xd5 29.♗xc3 ♖xc3 30.♘xd6+ ♕xd6 31.♖xe5+ ♔f8 32.♖xd5 ♖xb3+ 33.cxb3 ♕xd5 34.♕b8+ ♔e7 35.♕c7+±

27.♖h6



27...♖g6? Every good player knows, that one of the ways to win the game is to create a situation that offers opportunity to make mistakes. Chigaev has fought his top class opponent very well, but probably failed to spot the idea of trapping White's knight on b7.

27...♘g6! 28.♘xd6+ ♔d7 29.♘xb7 ♔c6! 30.f4 ♔xb7 31.f5 ♕xe4 32.fxg6 ♖xg6=

28.♖xg6!

28.♘g7+? ♖xg7 29.♖xe6+ fxe6 30.♕h6 ♘g6!= (30...♖g6 31.♕h7+-)

28...♕xg6 29.♕f4 There would be no real justice in criticising White's choice.

Idea of infiltrating Black's position was even more efficently executed with the help of the fine 29.♕f2! move. 29...♕xg5 (29...♘xf3 30.♕b6 ♕xg5 31.♕xb7 ♔d8 32.♘xd6+-; 29...d4 30.♗f4+-) 30.♕b6 ♘d7 31.♕xb7 ♖b8 32.♕xd5+-

29...♘xf3

29...♗d2 30.♕xd2 ♘xf3 31.♕b4+- (31.♕f4+-)

29...f6 30.♘xd6+ ♔d7 31.♗xf6 ♖f8 32.♖h6 ♖xf6 33.♕xf6 ♕xf6 34.♖xf6 ♗c6 35.g5 ♘g4 36.♖f8+-

30.♕xf3 dxe4

30...♕xg5 31.♘xd6+ ♔d7 32.♘xc8+-

31.♕e3 ♗g7

31...♗e5 32.♖h6 ♕g8 33.♘xd6++-

32.♕a7 If pieces could have dreams White's queen would be in heaven as the black defensive set up has fallen apart.

32...♕xg5

32...♖c7 33.♕b8+ ♔d7 34.♗d8 ♖c5 35.♗b6+-

33.♕xb7 ♖d8 34.♖h7

34.♖h7 ♖d7 35.♕xe4++-

1-0

2021
Chess.com
Fabiano
Caruana
USA GM 2800
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Maxim
Chigaev
RUS GM 2639
FIDE CHESS.COM
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Fabiano Caruana vs Maksim Chigaev, Riga 2021; Photo by Anna Shtourman

C43
Firouzja, Alireza (2770) - Abasov, Nijat (2638)
Riga, 2021

Alireza Firouzja, Riga 2021; Photo by Mark Livshitz

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.d4 ♘xe4 4.dxe5 d5 The no. 1 star in Riga clearly has good nerves and a huge ammount of work under his belt.

Very well prepared opponent might have challenged him on the territory of 4...♗c5 continuation, as the advantage in the whole line is a bit elusive. 5.♗c4 (5.♕d5) 5...♘xf2 6.♗xf7+ ♔xf7 7.♕d5+ ♔g6 8.♕xc5 ♘xh1 9.♘c3 d6∞

5.♘bd2 ♗e7

5...♘xd2 6.♗xd2 ♗e7

6.♘xe4

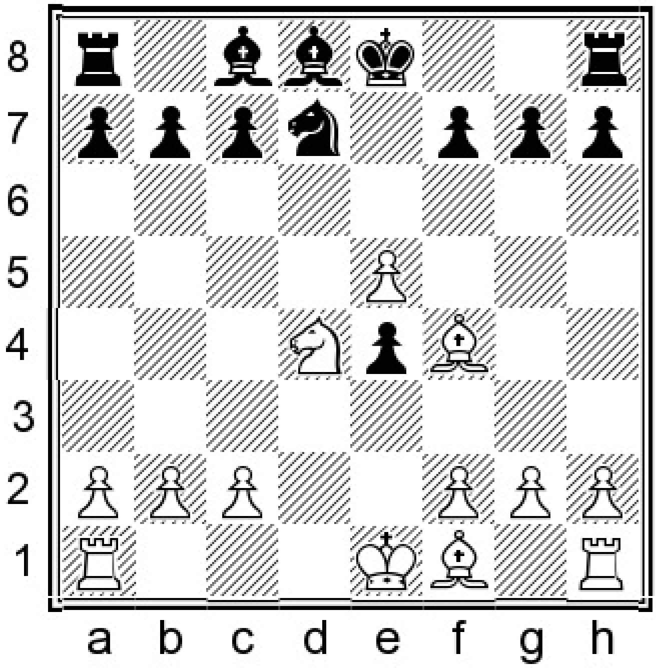
6.c4

6...dxe4 7.♕xd8+ ♗xd8 8.♘d4 Welcome to the new philosophy of opening play in modern times of computers, engines and extreme ammount of information. Firouzja is not afraid to fight on any territory, the only condition is to accomplish a rich, creative position. **8...♘d7**

8...♗d7 9.♗f4 (9.♗c4 ♘c6 10.♘xc6 ♗xc6 11.♗e3 O-O 12.e6 fxe6 13.♗xe6+ ♔h8 14.O-O-O ♗f6 15.♗d7 ♗xd7 16.♖xd7 ♖ac8 17.♖e1 ♔g8 18.♗d2 ♖cd8 19.♖xd8 ♗xd8 20.♗e3± Tari,Aryan 2614 - Rozentalis,Eduardas 2524, Deutschland 2019) 9...♘c6 10.O-O-O ♘xd4 (10...g5!? Zvjaginsev,Vadim 2653 - Stohl,Igor 2556, Rethymnon 2003 - 88/288) 11.♖xd4 ♗f5 12.♖b4 c6 13.♖xb7 ♗b6 14.♗c4 O-O 15.♗e3 ♗e6 16.♗e2 ♖ab8 17.♖xb8 ♖xb8 18.♗xb6 axb6 19.♖d1 c5 20.♗b5+- Nasuta,Grzegorz 2518 - Nurkiewicz,Maciej 2342, Suwalki 2021

8...c6 9.♗f4 (9.♗e3 ♗c7 10.e6 ♗xe6 11.♘xe6 fxe6 12.♗c4 e5 13.O-O-O ♘d7 14.♖he1 ♘f6 15.♗e6 ♔e7 16.♗f5 ♖hd8 17.♖xd8 ♖xd8 18.♗g5 h6 19.♗xf6+ gxf6 20.♖xe4 ♗b6 21.♖e2= Ponomariov,Ruslan 2723 - Wang,Yue 2697, Beijing (rapid) 2011) 9...♗a5+ 10.c3 ♗c7 11.♗c4 O-O 12.♗g3 ♗b6 13.♖d1 ♗xd4 14.♖xd4 ♗f5 15.♔e2 a5 16.♔e3 ♘a6 17.♔f4 ♗g6 18.h4 h5 19.e6 b5 20.♗e2 ♘c7 21.♔e3 ♘xe6 22.♖d6 ♖fc8= Karjakin,Sergey 2763 - Wang,Yue 2697, Beijing (blindfold) 2011

9.♗f4



9...♘c5?! It is impossible for me to find out the level of preparation of both players in this very exact line. The previous practice has indicated, that a very quick attack on the vulnerable e5-pawn is Black's best bet to fight for equality.

9...O-O 10.O-O-O c6 (10...♖e8 11.e6 fxe6 12.♘b5 e5 13.♗c4+ ♔f8 14.♗e3±) 11.e6 ♘b6 12.♗d6 ♗g5+ 13.♔b1 ♖e8 14.exf7+ ♔xf7 15.♗e2 ♗f6 16.♖he1 (16.♗g3 g6 17.♖he1 ♔g7 18.h3 a5 19.♗f1 a4 20.a3 ♗d7 21.♘b5 cxb5 22.♗c7= Vocaturo,Daniele 2542 - Li,Chao b 2665, Istanbul (ol) 2012) 16...g6 17.♘b3 ♘a4 18.c3 ♔g7 19.♘d4 h5 20.h3 ♘b6 21.♖g1 ♘d5= Wen,Yang 2613 - Bai,Jinshi 2585, China (ch) 2017

10.O-O-O c6 11.♗c4 ♗e7 White seems to have better chances in every line partly beacuse the e4-pawn is not really limiting potential of his pieces.

11...♗b6 12.♗e3 a5 13.h3±

12.♖he1 a5 13.h3 h5 The daring move with the h-pawn is controversial, but White now has to deal with the opponent's idea of h4, Rh5.

13...h6 14.a3 a4 15.♘e2±

14.a3 ♗d7

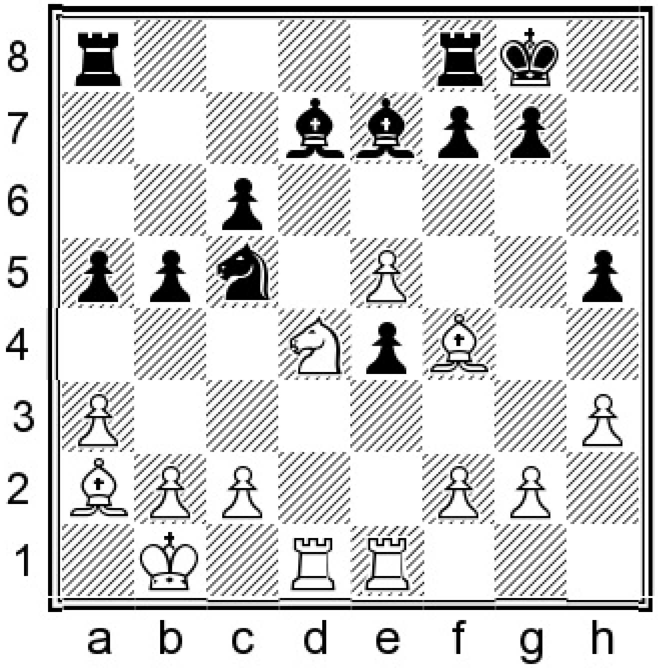
14...h4 15.♗e2 g6 16.♗d2±

15.♔b1 b5

15...O-O 16.♗e3 ♖ad8 17.♖d2±

16.♗a2 O-O

16...h4!? 17.♗d2 ♖h5 18.b4 axb4 19.axb4 ♖a4 20.♗c3±



17.g4! The ability to play on the whole board is a sign of true mastery. Firouzja was ready to adapt to any continuation, but also alert to any opportunity for the strike.

17.♗e3 ♖fd8 18.♖d2±

17...hxg4? One of the concepts that should be discussed in chess coaching is "the problem of conflict". Black is not ready to accept the challenge and the price for his choice will be very high.

Trying to create some problems for the opponent with 17...b4! was much more appropriate in the situation on the board. 18.♗e3 ♖fd8 19.axb4 axb4 20.gxh5±

18.hxg4 ♗xg4

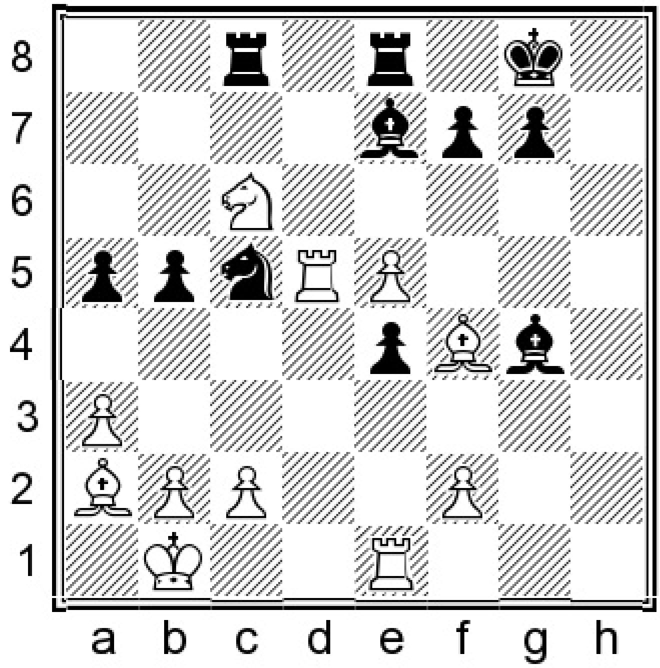
18...♖ad8 19.♘f5 ♗xf5 20.gxf5+-

19.♘xc6 ♖fe8

19...♗h4 20.♖d5 ♘e6 21.♗e3 ♖fc8 22.♘a7+-

20.♖d5 ♖ac8

20...♘e6 21.♗e3 ♘c7 22.♖g1 ♗e6 (22...♘xd5 23.♗xd5 ♗e6 24.♘xe7++-) 23.♖d4 ♗f8 24.♖xe4±



21.♘a7! Whoever is confused by the strength of this fine idea of bringing the knight to the edge of the board should remember the maxime: knights are typically not making moves, rather parts of a manoeuvre!

21...♖a8

21...b4 22.♘xc8 ♖xc8 23.♖g1 ♗f5 24.♗e3+-;

21...♖b8 22.♗e3+-

22.♘xb5 ♖eb8 Abasov is looking for moves with a gain of tempo in order to get a chance for some counterplay.

It was more important to tame the potential of enemy pieces with a more modest 22...♗e6 23.♖d2 ♖eb8 24.♘d6+-

23.♘c7 ♖a7 24.e6! The dichotomy of playing with pieces or pawns is masterfully eliminated with this fine advance that maximises impact of White's army.

24...♖ab7

24...fxe6 25.♘xe6 ♖xb2+ 26.♔xb2 ♗xe6 27.♖xc5 ♖b7+ 28.♔a1+-;

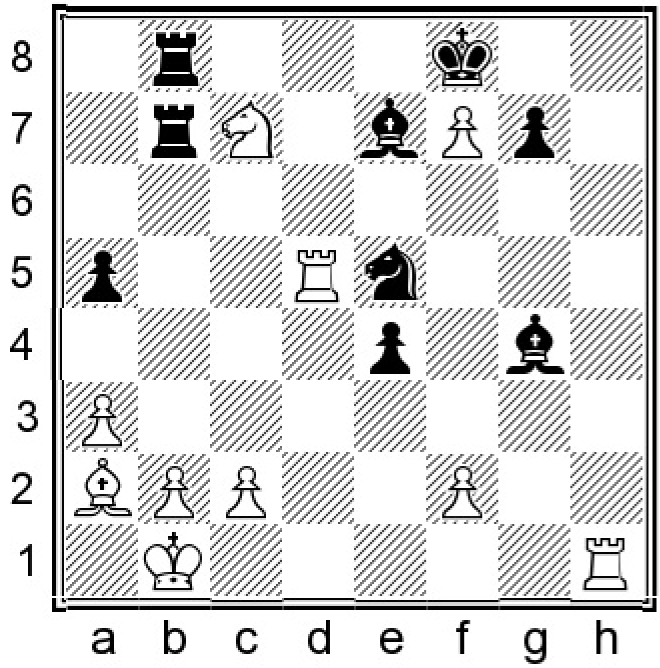
24...f6 25.♖d7 ♘xd7 26.exd7+ ♔h7 (26...♔f8 27.♖h1) 27.♘d5+-

25.exf7+ ♔f8

25...♔xf7 26.♗e5 ♔f8 27.♖h1+-

26.♗e5 ♘d7 27.♖xd7 The position is so good for the first player that the choice of the next move becomes a matter of taste, as any decent line wins.

27.♖h1 ♗xa3 (27...♘xe5 28.♖d8+! ♗xd8 29.♖h8+ ♔e7 30.f8=Q++-) 28.♖h8+ ♔e7 29.♖e8+ ♔xf7 30.♖xd7+ ♔g6 31.♖xg7+ ♔f5 32.♖xb8 ♖xb8 33.♗d4+-



27...♗xd7 28.♖h1

28.♖h1 ♗xa3 29.♖h8+ ♔e7 30.♘d5+ ♔xf7 31.♘f4+ ♗e6 32.♗xe6+ ♔e7 33.♖xb8+-

1-0

C70
Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2763) - Demchenko, Anton (2651)
Riga, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5

The real opening fight can begin as early as the move 3. Serious interest in the **3...g6** line is mark of the last few years. The main ambition is to avoid truly laborious transfer of the dark-squared bishop from e7 to g7 in the main lines.

4.c3 ♗g7 5.d4 exd4

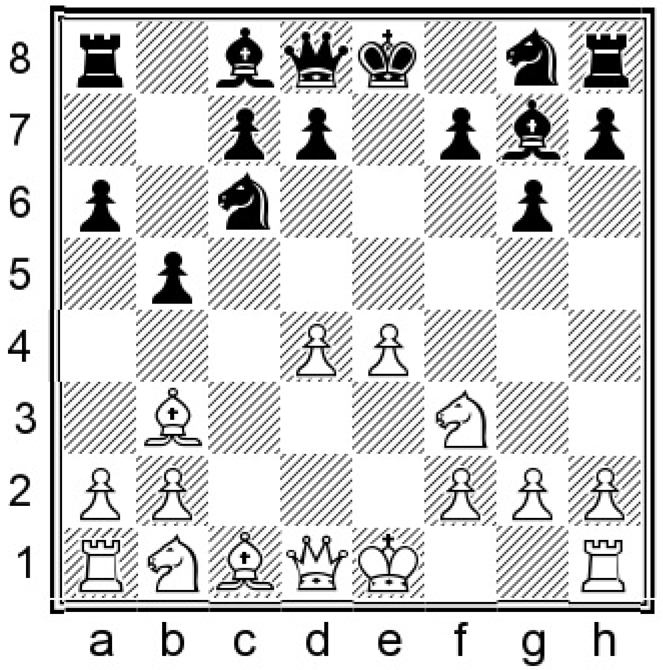
5...d6 6.d5 (6.dxe5 dxe5 7.♕xd8+ ♔xd8 8.♗xc6 bxc6 9.♗e3 f6 10.♘bd2 ♗a6 11.♘b3 ♗f8 12.O-O-O+ ♔c8 13.♗c5+- Azarov,Sergei 2604 - Turzo,Attila 2302, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2021) 6...a6 7.♗a4 (7.♕a4) 7...b5

6.cxd4 a6 7.♗a4 The weaker players often misunderstand the ideas behind 3.Bb5 (or 3...Bb4 in the Nimzo Indian Defence). The bishop puts pressure against the c6-knight which defends the e5-pawn, thus limiting Black's freedom. The trade of the bishop for the knight is genuinely rare, as White does not get enough compensation - proven convincingly in the main line of the Berlin Defence 3. Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Ne4.

7.♗xc6 dxc6 8.♘c3 ♗g4 (8...♘f6 9.O-O h6 10.h3 O-O 11.♖e1 b6 12.♗f4 ♗b7 13.♕d2 ♔h7 14.♖ad1 ♕e7 15.♗e5± Steinberg,Nitzan 2532 - Mikhalevski,Victor 2579, Israel (ch) 2018; 8...♘e7 9.h3 O-O 10.O-O ♗e6 11.♗f4 h6 12.♖e1 g5 13.♗e5 f6 14.♗g3 ♕d7 15.♕c2 ♗f7 16.♖ad1 ♖fe8 17.♖d2± Cornette,Matthieu 2556 - Forcen Esteban,Daniel 2548, Pro Chess League (Internet-rapid) 2020) 9.♗e3 ♘e7 10.h3 ♗xf3 11.♕xf3 f5 12.e5 ♕d7 13.O-O-O O-O-O 14.♗g5 h6 15.♗xe7 ♕xe7 16.♕e3 ♔b8 17.f4 g5 18.g3 gxf4 19.gxf4± Sjugirov,Sanan 2871 - Om Kharola 2590, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2019

7...b5 8.♗c2

Choosing between two attractive retreats can be a true agony, since the bishop is more active on b3. 8.♗b3 In our case practice is showing quite convincingly that the ensuing positions tend to be pleasant for Black.



8...♘a5 (8...d6 9.h3 ♘ge7 (9...♘f6 10.O-O O-O 11.♖e1 ♗b7 12.♘bd2 ♘b4 13.♘f1 c5 14.a3 ♘c6 15.d5 ♘d4 16.♘xd4 cxd4 17.♕xd4 ♘xd5 18.♕d3 ♘b6 19.♖d1 ♖c8= Hansen,Eric 2629 - Anand,Viswanathan 2771, Batumi (ol) 2018 - 138/144) 10.O-O O-O 11.♖e1 ♘a5 12.♗c2 c5 13.♘c3 cxd4 14.♘xd4 ♗b7 15.♗g5 h6 16.♗h4 ♖e8 17.♘d5 ♗xd5 18.exd5 ♕b6 19.♘f3 ♕b7∓ Najer, Evgeniy 2679 - Grischuk,Alexander 2737, Doha (blitz) 2016; 8...♘ge7 9.O-O (9.d5 ♘a5 10.♗c2 O-O 11.O-O d6 12.h3 ♗b7 13.♘bd2 c6 14.dxc6 ♘exc6 15.♖e1 ♖c8 16.♘f1 ♘c4 17.♖b1 ♘b4∓ Naroditsky,Daniel 2621 - Nakamura,Hikaru 2736, chess.com (Internet-m/2-blitz) 2020) 9...O-O (9...d6 10.d5 ♘a5 11.♗c2 c5 12.♘c3 O-O 13.h3 h6 14.♖e1 g5 15.e5 dxe5 16.♘xe5 b4 17.♘a4 ♕xd5 18.♕xd5 ♘xd5∓ Nakamura,Hikaru 2761 - Nepomniachtchi,Ian 2773, Abidjan (blitz) 2019) 10.♘c3 d6 11.h3 ♘a5 12.♗c2 c5 13.dxc5 dxc5 14.♕xd8 ♖xd8 15.♗g5 ♖e8 16.♖ad1 ♗e6 17.♘d5 ♘xd5 18.exd5 ♗d7∓ Vachier Lagrave,Maxime 2789 - Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar 2808, Leuven (blitz) 2018) 9.a4 ♗b7 10.O-O ♘e7 11.♖e1 O-O 12.♘c3 b4 13.♘a2 ♘xb3 14.♕xb3 a5 15.♗g5 h6 16.♗h4 d6∓ Stany, George Anthony 2716 - Tang,Andrew 2855, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020

8...d6 9.h3 Even the best players in the world are unable to eliminate the tension between the limiting impact of some moves (the Bg4 ideas are out and the bishop constrained to b7 and d7) and the terrible cost of the tempo invested.

The alternative 9.d5!? is favoured by Caruana and could possibly become main line in the future. 9...♘a5 10.O-O (10.♘bd2 c6 11.O-O ♘e7 12.dxc6 O-O 13.a4 ♘exc6 14.axb5 axb5 15.♘b3 ♗g4 16.♘xa5 ♖xa5 17.♖xa5 ♕xa5= Caruana,Fabiano 2842 - Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar 2764, Pro Chess League (Internet-rapid) 2020) 10...♘c4 (10...♘e7 11.♗d2 ♗xb2 12.♗xa5 ♗xa1 13.♘c3 ♗b2 14.e5 O-O 15.♘e4 ♗b7 16.♗b3 ♗xe5 17.♘xe5 dxe5 18.♗c3 ♘f5 19.♗xe5+- Navara,David 2733 - Salgado Lopez,Ivan 2624, Deutschland 2019 - 139/130) 11.♘c3 ♘e7 12.♗d3 ♘b6 13.a4 b4 14.♘e2 a5 15.♘ed4 O-O 16.♗g5 ♗d7 17.♕c2 f6 18.♗e3 f5 19.♘e6 ♗xe6 20.dxe6± Caruana,Fabiano 2816 - Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar 2808, Leuven (rapid) 2018

9...♘f6 10.O-O ♗b7 11.a3 Investing another tempo for the prohylactic move on the queenside is indicating that finding advantage against Black's flexible set up is far from easy.

11...O-O 12.♖e1 ♖e8 13.♗g5 Analytical tools are pointing out that better chance at some plus could be hidden in the 13.Bf4 move.

13.♗f4 ♘e7 14.♘c3 c5 15.d5±

13...h6 14.♗h4 ♘e7

14...g5 15.♗g3 ♘e7 16.♘bd2 ♘h5 17.♗h2 ♘g6=

15.♘c3 ♘h5 Demchenko could not have been sure about pawn expansion with 14...g5. The knight move indicates respect for the very strong opponent.

15...g5 16.♗g3 ♘h5 17.♗h2 ♘g6=

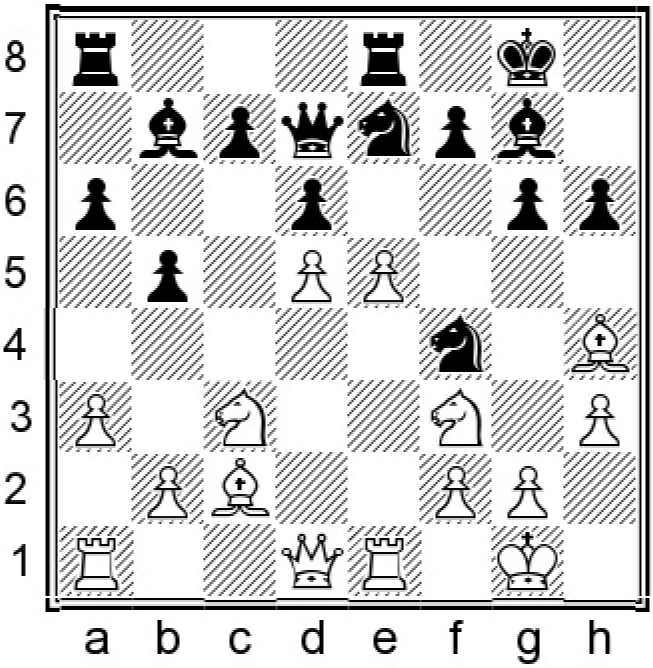
16.e5 ♕d7

16...g5? 17.♘xg5 hxg5 18.♗xg5+-;

16...♘f4 17.♗e4 ♗xe4 18.♘xe4±

17.d5 ♘f4

17...dxe5 18.♘xe5 ♕d6 19.♘xf7! ♔xf7 20.♖e6+-



18.e6!? Vachier-Lagrave loves dynamic play and feels that only the lines with complicated problems can shake the opponent.

18.♗b3 ♘f5 19.♗f6 ♗xf6 20.exf6 ♖xe1+ 21.♕xe1 ♖e8 22.♕d2 g5=

18...fxe6

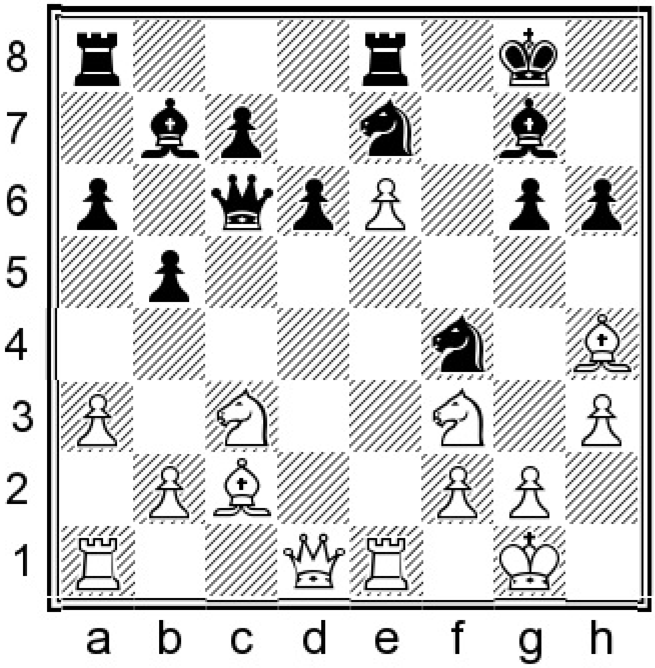
18...♕c8? 19.♕d2 ♘exd5 20.exf7+ ♔xf7 21.♘xd5 ♘xd5 22.♖xe8 ♕xe8 23.♗b3 c6 24.♖e1+-

19.dxe6 ♕c6?

Not all moves or decisions on the chessboard are created equal. Very often players spend huge ammount of time and energy in preparatory phases of the game, but during the big clash of forces and ideas they accept lesser solutions.

19...♕d8 20.♖c1 c5 21.♕d2±;

19...♘xe6! 20.♘e5 ♗xe5 21.♖xe5 c5 22.♖e3 ♘f4=



20.♖e4! The true highlight of the game as the rook lift is combining defence on the a8-h1 diagonal with dangerous attacking ideas. In most situations it does not make sense to expose such a valuable piece, but tactical ideas turn it into the richest, most versatile and best solution.

20...♘ed5

20...g5 21.♖xf4 gxf4 22.♕d3+-

21.♘xd5 ♘xd5

21...♕xd5 22.♖xf4 g5 23.♖f7 ♕xd1+ 24.♖xd1 ♗xf3 (24...gxh4 25.♘d4+-) 25.gxf3 gxh4 26.♗b3+-;

21...♘xh3+ 22.gxh3 ♕xd5 23.♕e2+-

22.♖g4 I strongly believe that the quality of positions are nearly always manifested by their richness, ample choice of good moves.

The logical consequence of the rook lift is completed with logical mobilisation of the last reserve: 22.♖c1! g5 (22...♗xb2 23.♖g4+-) 23.♗xg5 hxg5 24.♘xg5 ♘f6 25.♗b3+-

22...♖xe6

22...g5 23.♗xg5 hxg5 (23...♖xe6 24.♘d4 ♗xd4 25.♗f6+ ♔f7 26.♗xd4 ♖f8 27.♖c1+-) 24.♘d4 ♕c5 25.♖xg5 ♘f6 26.♘f5+-

23.♗b3! The white "spanish" bishop on the light squares has a stellar reputation for a good reason. Black is tragically exposed on the kingside as well as along the a2-g8 diagonal.

23.♗xg6 ♖xg6 24.♖xg6 ♕e8 25.♕c2 ♘f4 26.♖g4+-

23...♗xb2 24.♖b1

24.♖a2 ♕c1 25.♖xb2 ♕xd1+ 26.♗xd1+-

24...♗xa3

24...♗c3 25.♖c1 ♖ae8 26.♕d3 ♔h7 27.♘d4 ♖e1+ 28.♔h2 ♘f4 29.♖xc3 ♘xd3 30.♘xc6+-

25.♘d4 ♕e8 26.♘xe6 ♕xe6 27.♕d2 h5

27...♔h7 28.♖e1+-

28.♖e1

The disparity between concentration of Black's forces on both sides of the board is rendering the position unplayable. 28.♖e1 ♕f7 29.♖xg6+ ♕xg6 30.♗xd5++-

1-0

Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, Riga 2021; Photo by Mark Livshitz

D41
Sarana, Alexey (2649) - Praggnanandhaa, Rameshbabu (2618)
Riga, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3

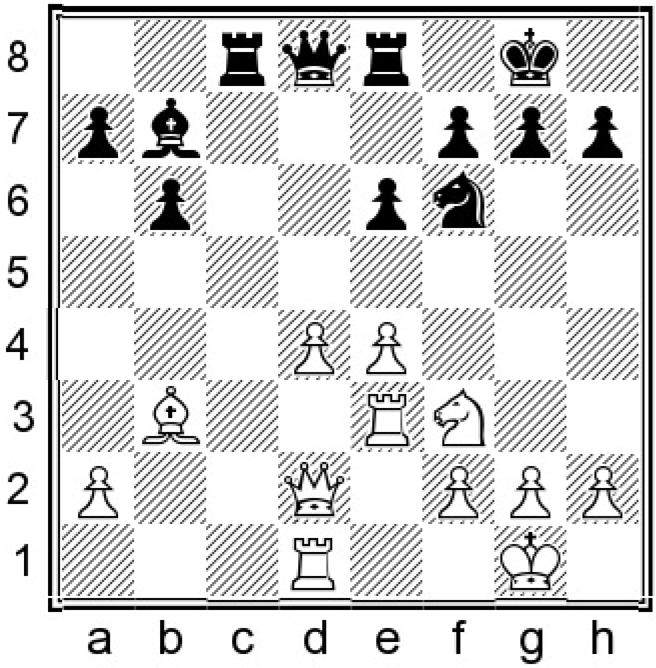
Kramnik has left the active chess scene very early, but he managed to left the significant mark on development of the opening theory. Nearly "hysterical" popularity of the unexpected simplifying line after **4...c5** in the last few years was to a great degree inspired by his love for the scheme.

5.cxd5 ♘xd5 6.e4 ♘xc3 7.bxc3 cxd4 8.cxd4 ♗b4+ 9.♗d2 ♗xd2+ 10.♕xd2 O-O 11.♗c4 ♘d7 12.O-O b6 13.♖fe1 ♗b7 14.♖ad1 Sarana understands that the rook on the open c-file would get exchanged thus reducing attacking potential of White's forces.

14...♖c8 15.♗b3 ♖e8

15...h6 16.♖e3 ♖e8 17.h3 ♘f6 18.♖de1 ♕c7 19.a4 ♖ed8 20.♕b2 ♕e7 21.♕d2 a5 22.d5 exd5 23.exd5 ♕b4∓ Khademalsharieh,Sarasadat 2494 - Abdusattorov,Nodirbek 2627, chess24. com (Internet-rapid) 2021

16.♖e3 ♘f6



17.♕e1!? One of huge advantages of this system for Black is the chance to analyse and understand the problems to the core. Objectively the chances could even be equal, but it is unjust to neglect the potential for starting action - this element is tilted hugely in White's favour. The queen move to e1 is a product of previous development, as it improves readiness to strike in the centre.

17.d5 exd5 18.exd5 ♕d6=

17...♕c7 18.h3

18.♘e5 ♘d7 19.♘xd7 (19.♗a4? ♘xe5 20.♗xe8 ♘c4∓) 19...♕xd7 20.h4±;

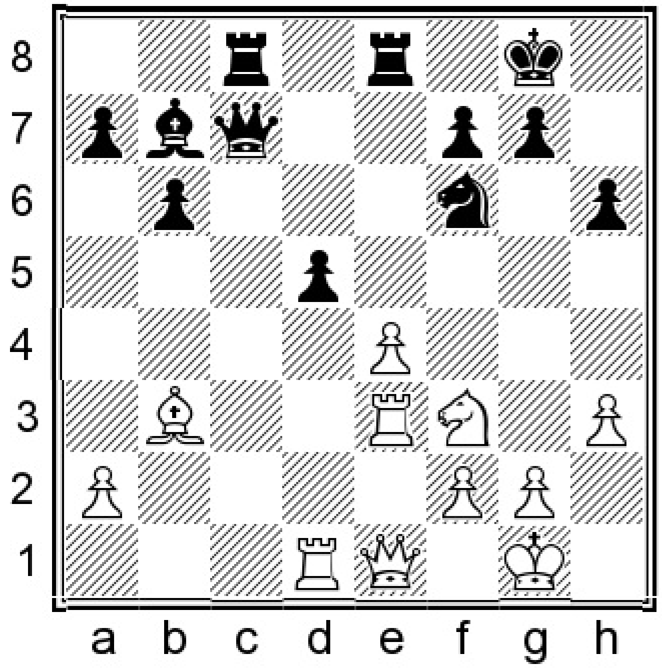
18.d5 exd5 19.e5 ♘e4 20.♘d4 a6 (20...♖xe5 21.f3 ♖h5 22.h4 ♘d6 23.g4 ♖h6 24.♘f5 ♖f8 25.♘xh6+ gxh6 26.♗xd5+- Abdusattorov,Nodirbek 2634 - Alavi,Sayed Javad 2432, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2021) 21.h4 ♖cd8 22.f3 ♘c5 23.h5 ♘e6 24.♘f5 d4 25.♖ed3 ♘c5 26.♖xd4 ♖xd4 27.♖xd4 ♘xb3 28.♕g3 g6 29.axb3+- Carlsen,Magnus 2863 - Giri,Anish 2764, chess24.com (Internet-m2/1-rapid) 2020

18...h6 19.d5

19.♘e5 b5=

19...exd5

19...e5 20.d6 ♕d7 21.♘h4+-



20.e5!

20.exd5 ♕c5=

20...♘d7 The only sensible alternative to the tempting jump to e4 and the first independent move. Black feels the necessity to limit White's potential with the help of pressure against the e5-pawn.

20...♘e4 21.♘d4 (21.♗xd5 ♗xd5 22.♖xd5 ♘c5 23.♘d4 ♖cd8 24.♘b5 ♕c6= Chandra,Akshat 2510 - Ruiz Castillo,Joshua Daniel 2499, lichess.org (Internet-blitz) 2021) 21...♕c5 22.♔h2±

21.♗a4

21.e6 fxe6! 22.♖xe6 ♘f6=

21...♗c6

21...♖e7 22.♗xd7 ♕xd7 23.♘d4±

22.♗c2 d4? It is all too normal, that the young Indian player does not have the patience of the seasoned grandmaster. A nervous attempt to dissolve enormous tension in the centre is a surprisingly bad decision. White will even have a choice of using his impeccable centralisation of all the forces.

22...♖e7 23.♖c1 ♘c5 24.♘d4 ♗d7 25.f4±;

22...♗b5 23.♖d2 (23.♘d4 ♖xe5 (23...♘xe5 24.♘xb5 ♕xc2 25.♖xd5 (25.♘d6? ♘f3+ 26.gxf3 ♕g6+-+) 25...f6 26.♘d6 ♖cd8 (26...♖ed8 27.♘xc8+-) 27.♖d2 ♕g6 28.♘xe8+-) 24.♘xb5 ♖xe3 25.♗h7+ ♔xh7 26.♕xe3 ♕c2 27.♖xd5 ♘f6-+) 23...♘f8=;

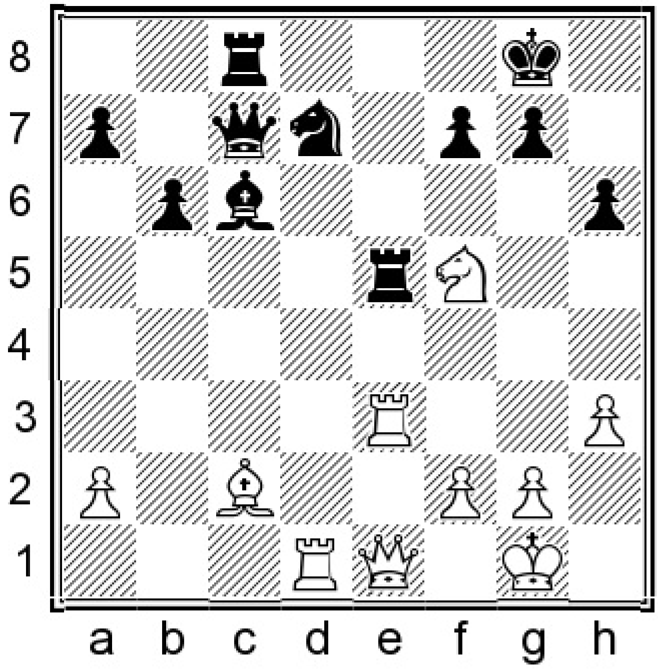
22...♘f8 23.♘d4 ♗d7= (23...♘e6 24.♘f5 d4 25.♘xd4 ♗d5=)

23.♘xd4 ♖xe5 Black is forced to try limiting White's choices with a rook capture as the knight's move ends in tears after just a few moves.

23...♘xe5? 24.♘xc6 (24.♘f5!?±) 24...♕xc6 25.♗f5 ♘c4 26.♗d7!+-

24.♘f5! The knight move unleashes the full potential of all White's pieces. The danger is obvious.

24.♘xc6 ♕xc6 (24...♖xe3? 25.♕xe3 ♕xc6 26.♗f5) 25.♖xe5 ♘xe5 26.♗b3 (26.♗f5 ♖e8) 26...♖e8∓



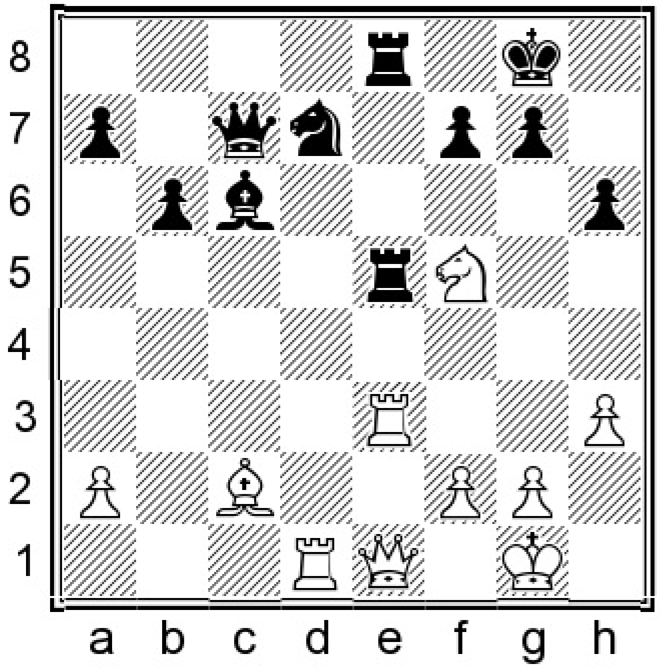
24...♖ce8?!

Attaining the highest level of mastery in defence is extremely difficult in chess. Passive approach usually does not work at all and combining counterplay moves with recognising the biggest dangers in the charged situation is highly unattractive and sensitive task.

24...♖xe3 25.♕xe3 ♖f8 (25...♗xg2 26.♔xg2 ♕xc2 27.♘e7++-; 25...♖b8 26.♖d6!+- (26.♕c3+-); 25...♔f8 26.♕e7+ ♔g8 27.♘d6 ♖f8 28.♗b3 ♔h7 29.♖c1+-; 25...♘e5 26.♘d6 ♗xg2 27.♘xc8+-) 26.♘xh6+ gxh6 27.♕xh6+-;

24...♗xg2 25.♔xg2 ♕xc2 26.♖xe5 ♘xe5 27.♕xe5+-

The best chance was connected with 24...♗b5! as it denies access to c3 for the white queen. 25.♖d2 ♖xe3 (25...♖f8 26.♕a1! f6 (26...♕c5 27.♖xd7+-) 27.♖g3+-; 25...♖ce8 26.♘d6 ♖xe3 27.fxe3 ♖e5 28.♘xb5 ♖xb5 29.♗a4+-) 26.♕xe3 ♘e5 27.♖d5! g6 (27...♖e8 28.♖xb5 ♘f3+ 29.gxf3 ♖xe3 30.♘xe3±) 28.♘xh6+ ♔g7 29.♘f5+ gxf5 30.♖xb5±



25.♕c3! Fascinating moment in the game! Since the queen manages to combine limitation of of both Bc6 and the Re5 with direct attack against the g7-square. Black is in fact completely lost!

25...♘f6

25...f6 26.♕c4+ ♖8e6 (26...♔h8 27.♕f7 ♖g8 28.♘xh6 ♖f8 29.♕g8+) 27.♖xe5 ♕xe5 28.♘e7+ ♔f7 29.♘xc6+-;

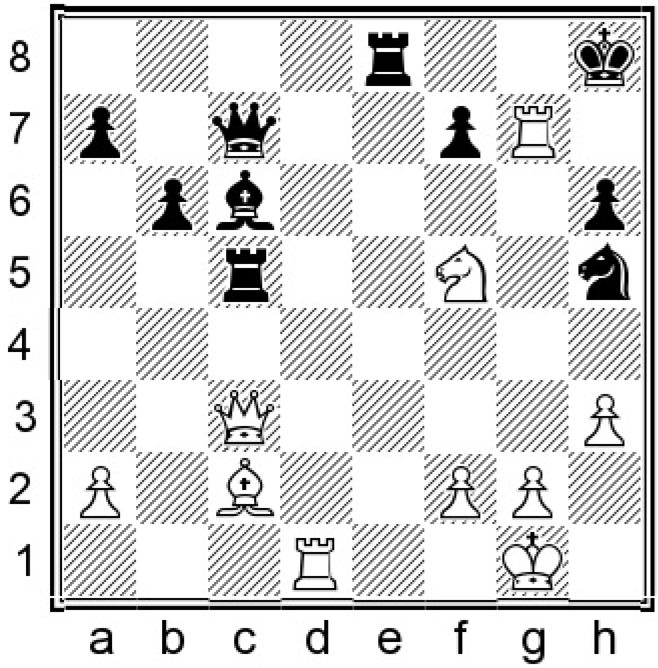
25...♘c5 26.♖g3 ♘e6 27.♘xg7 ♘xg7 28.f4+-

26.♖g3 ♘h5

26...g6 27.♘xh6+ ♔g7 28.♘xf7! ♔xf7 29.♗xg6+ ♔f8 30.f4 ♖5e6 31.♗xe8 ♔xe8 32.f5 ♖e5 33.♖g6+-

27.♖g4 ♔f8 The defender must have agonised with desire to find a continuation that is not clearly winning for the opponent. When the most logical 27...Rc5 was found unsufficient Praggnanandhaa goes for the move that looks like a silent cry of pain.

27...♖c5 28.♖xg7+ ♔f8 (28...♔h8



29.♖d6! ♕xd6 (29...♖e6 30.♖xe6 fxe6 31.♕xc5! ♕xg7 32.♕xc6 exf5 33.♕c8+ ♕g8 34.♕xf5+-) 30.♖h7+ ♔xh7 31.♘xd6+ ♔g8 32.♕d3 ♖e1+ 33.♔h2 ♘f6 34.♘f5+-) 29.♖h7 f6 30.♖h8+ ♔f7 31.♘xh6+;

27...a6 28.♘xg7 ♘xg7 29.f4+-

28.♖c4! ♖c8

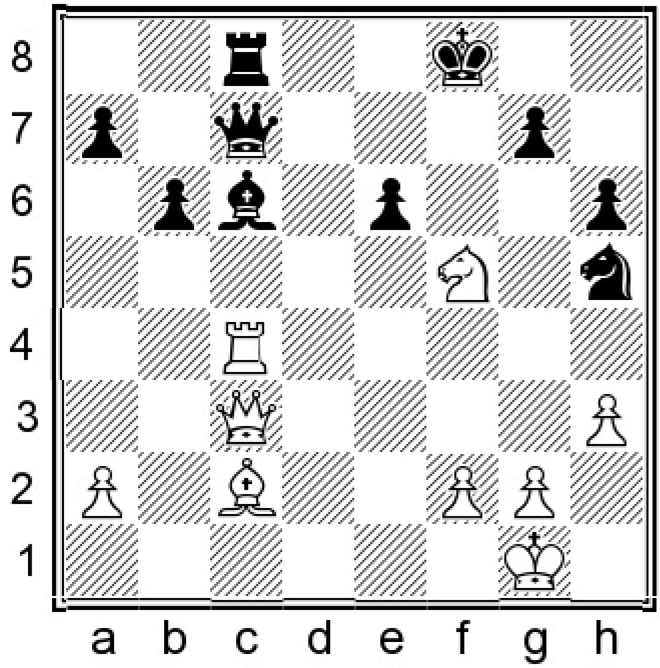
28...♖c5 29.♖xc5 bxc5 30.♕xc5+ ♔g8 31.♘d4 (31.♖d6?? ♖e1+ 32.♔h2 ♖h1+ 33.♔xh1 ♗xg2+-+) 31...♘f4 32.♕xc6+-

29.♖d6 Sarana was quite literaly spoiled for choice, as any sensible continuation is safely cruising home.

29.♖xc6 ♕xc6 30.♖d8+ ♖e8 31.♕xc6 ♖xc6 32.♖xe8+ ♔xe8 33.♗a4+-

The knight jump 29.♘d6! seems to be winning the beauty contest for the most devastating line! 29...♖ee8 (29...b5 30.♖xc6 ♕xc6 31.♕xe5 ♕xc2 32.♕xh5+-) 30.♘xe8 ♔xe8 31.♖xc6 ♕xc6 32.♗a4+-

29...♖e6 30.♖xe6 fxe6


8
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31.♕a3+!

31.♕a3+ ♔e8 (31...♔g8 32.♘e7+ ♔f7 33.♘xc8 ♕xc8 34.♕c3+-) 32.♖xc6+-

1-0

Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu, Riga 2021; Photo by Anna Shtourman

E25
Vitiugov, Nikita (2727) - Oparin, Grigoriy (2654)
Riga, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 The Nimzo Indian is probably the cleanest, most perfect defence as Black rushes his development with minimal number of pawn moves. After impending castling he would be left with richest choice of continuations in the centre and on the queenside.

Vitiugov choses a controversial move **4.a3** in order to get less played positions, but Black finds it reasonably easy to keep the balance.

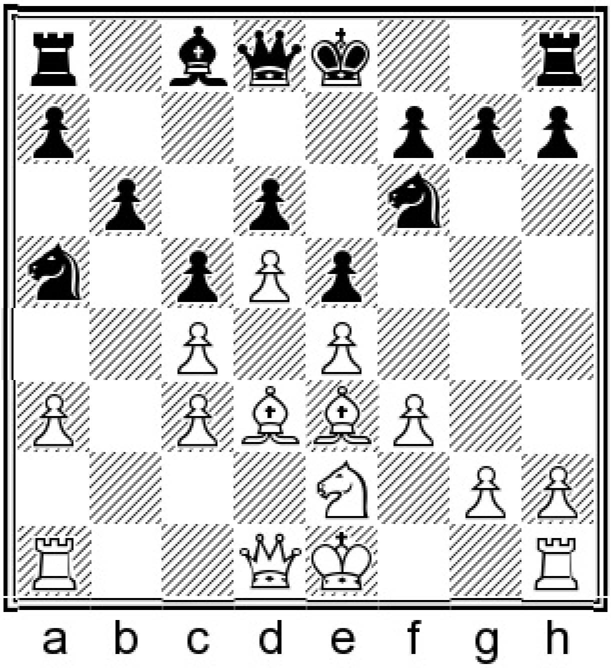
4...♗xc3+ 5.bxc3 c5 6.f3 ♘c6 7.e4 d6 8.♗e3 b6 9.♗d3 e5

9...♕c7 10.♘e2 (10.f4 e5 11.♘f3 ♘g4 12.♗g1 exf4 13.h3 ♘e3 14.♗xe3 fxe3 15.O-O f6 16.♖e1 ♗d7 17.♖xe3= Volkov,Sergey 2572 - Stupak,Kirill 2551, Sochi 2019) 10...♘a5 11.O-O ♗a6 12.♗g5 ♘d7 13.f4 ♗xc4 14.f5 e5 15.f6 g6 16.dxe5 ♗xd3 17.♕xd3 dxe5 18.c4 O-O-O 19.♘c3= Boyer,Mahel 2465 - Dubov,Daniil 2699, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020

10.d5 This is not a place to impose personal philosophy of chess, but please allow me to remark about richer and less limited opening continuations.

The most natural move 10.♘e2 is developing a piece and keeping the option of the d5-advance open. Unsurprisingly, the database indicates much better score in practice for this choice. 10...♕d7 (10...O-O 11.d5 ♘e7 12.h4 ♔h8 13.g4 ♗xg4 14.fxg4 ♘xg4 15.♗d2 f5 16.exf5 e4 17.♘g3+- Moskalenko,Viktor 2500 - Harutyunyan,Tigran K 2539, Barbera del Valles 2019; 10...♘a5 11.♘g3 ♗a6 12.♘f5 g6 13.♘h6 ♘d7 14.O-O ♕e7 15.f4 ♖f8 16.fxe5 dxe5 17.♘g4 ♘xc4 18.♗c1 h5 19.♘xe5 ♘dxe5 20.dxe5+- Aleksandrov,Aleksej 2601 - Podolcenko,Evgeniy 2429, Belarus (ch) 2007; 10...h6 11.O-O g5 12.♘g3 ♘a5 13.♕e2 ♕e7 14.♖fe1 ♗e6 15.♖ab1 ♖g8 16.♖b5 ♕c7 17.♖eb1 ♖g6 18.♘f5 ♘h5 19.♖xa5 bxa5 20.♖b7+- Moskalenko,Viktor 2591 - Aroshidze,Levan 2539, Sant Marti 2011) 11.d5 ♘a5 12.♘g3 ♗a6 13.♕e2 O-O-O (13...h5 14.h4 g6 15.a4 ♘g8 16.♘f1 O-O-O 17.♘d2± Heberla,Bartlomiej 2575 - Sumets,Andrey 2543, Djerba 2020) 14.a4 ♖dg8 15.h4 g6 16.♔d1 ♘h5 17.♘f1 f5 18.♔c2 fxe4 19.fxe4 ♖f8∓ Ang,Alphaeus Wei Ern 2195 - Winkelman,Albert 2283, Melbourne 2019

10...♘a5 11.♘e2



11...♔d7!?N Oparin is not a household name on the very top of the chess pyramid, but in Riga he showed excellent preparation, very firm repertoire and ability to punish any mistake. The king transfer to c7 is new, very logical and a sign of mind not burdened by prejudicies.

11...♗a6

12.O-O ♔c7 13.f4 The desire to open up the position for White's bishop pair is laudable, but Black is well prepared.

13...♘g4

13...♘d7 14.♘g3 g6 15.♕e2±

14.♗d2 exf4 15.♗xf4 f6

A notable moment, since Black could have equalised with a more forcing idea 15...g5!? It is useful to remember, that to correctly judge the merit of more risky idea is much easier in the quiet home study plus the computer engine. 16.h3 gxf4 17.hxg4 ♕g5 18.♖xf4 f6 19.♕f1 h5 20.♖xf6 ♕e3+ 21.♕f2 ♕xd3 22.♖f7+ ♗d7 23.♖xd7+ ♔xd7 24.♕f7+ ♔c8 25.♕e6+=

16.♘d4! ♘e5 It would have been absurd to open up position depending on closed character, Black would be facing swift annihilation.

16...cxd4?? 17.cxd4+-

17.♘b5+ ♔b7 18.♗xe5

18.♖b1 a6 19.♘d4 ♔a7=

18...dxe5 19.d6 The current Russian Champion is willingly taking the risk with a pawn advance, as he seeks to unbalance the position.

19.a4 a6 20.♘a3 ♔a7=

19...♖b8

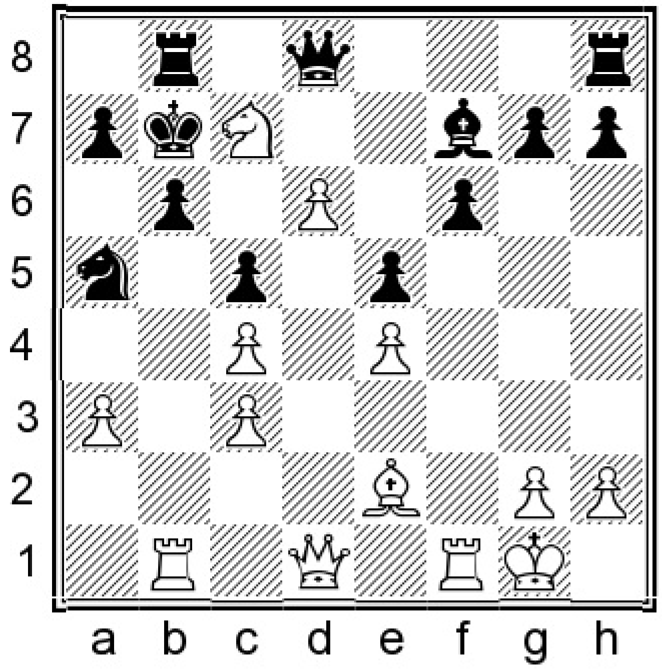
19...♗e6 20.♘c7 ♕xd6 21.♘xa8 ♖xa8 22.♕c2=

20.♗e2 ♗e6 21.♘c7 ♗f7

21...♕d7 22.♘xe6 ♕xe6 23.♗g4 ♕xc4 24.♕f3 ♖bd8 25.♖fd1=

22.♖b1?!

22.a4 ♕f8 23.♖a2 ♖d8 24.♖d2 ♘xc4 25.♗xc4 ♗xc4 26.a5 ♗xf1 27.♔xf1=



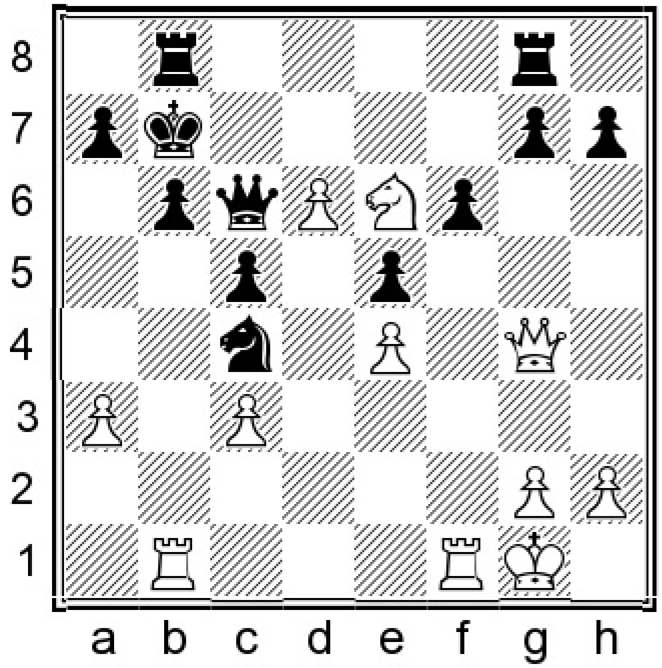
22...♕d7?! From the objective point of view, both players have made an inaccurate move. White underestimated the importance of the pawn attacking potential, while Black abstained from running the risk of winning material and opening the position.

22...♘xc4! 23.♗xc4 ♗xc4 24.a4 (24.♖f2 ♕d7∓) 24...♔c6 25.♘b5 a6 26.♘a3 ♗xf1 27.♕d5+ ♔d7 28.♖xf1 ♕g8∓

23.♗g4 ♕c6 24.♗e6 ♗xe6 25.♘xe6 ♘xc4

25...♖hg8? 26.♕d3 ♖be8 27.♕d5 ♕xd5 28.cxd5±

26.♕g4 ♖hg8



27.d7? Vitiugov will surely regret his impatience with pawn moves in this game. The problem of disparity between piece and pawn moves is not much discussed in chess literature, so even great players ocassionally slip and fail to prefer the piece play.

Despite all previous excitement the correct move 27.♖fd1! was still keeping balance in the position. 27...♘xd6 (27...♘e3 28.♕h5 ♘xd1 29.♕f7+ ♔a6 30.♖xd1 ♕a4 31.♘c7+ ♔a5 32.♕d5 ♖gc8 33.♖b1 a6 34.♖b4 ♕c2 35.♕c6 ♕d1+=) 28.♖d5 ♔a8 29.♖bd1 ♘f7 30.♘xg7 f5 31.exf5 h5 32.♕g3=

27...♘e3 28.♕h3 ♘xf1 29.♖xf1 The flow of the game is clearly slipping away from White's hands.

The engine can see some chances to fight the downslide with 29.♖d1!? ♖bd8 30.♔xf1 ♕xe4 31.♖d6 g5∓

29...♕xe4 30.♕h5

30.♖d1 ♖bd8 31.♘xd8+ ♖xd8 32.♕e6 ♕c6 33.♖d6 ♕b5 34.♖d5 ♕e2-+

30...♖gd8 31.♖d1 g6

31...♕a4! 32.♘xd8+ ♖xd8 33.♖d5 ♖xd7 34.♕e8 ♔c7-+

32.♕xh7 ♕e2! The pain on the board is often connected with impossibility to play the most desirable line. White's rook has to leave the d-file due to the mate on e1 and that decides the outcome.

33.♖b1

33.♖f1 ♕d3-+

33...♕c2 34.♖f1 ♕d3 35.♘xd8+ ♖xd8 36.♕e7 ♖xd7 37.♕xf6 ♕xc3 Black is not only enjoying extra material, but also White's king is very vulnerable and march of the c-pawn cannot be effectively countered.

38.♕xg6

38.h3 ♕d4+ 39.♔h2 ♕d6-+

38...♕e3+ 39.♔h1 c4! 40.♕e6

40.h4 ♕d3 41.♕f6 c3-+

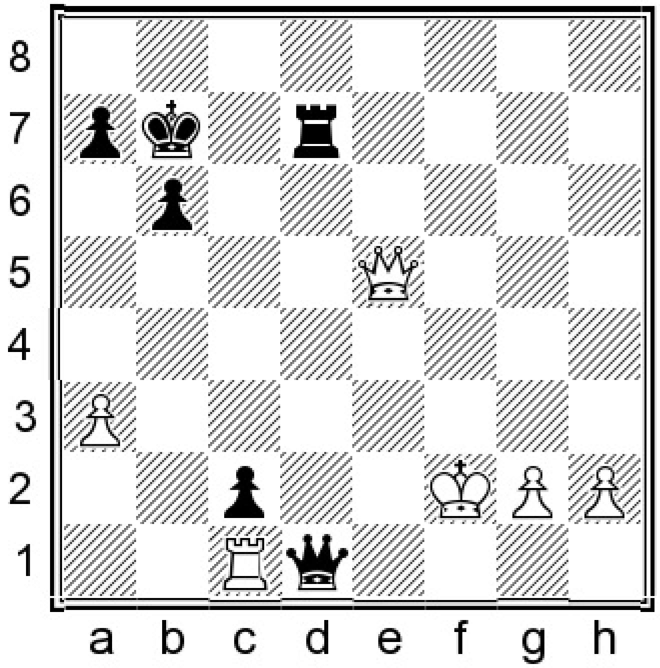
40...♕d3 41.♔g1 Impossible choice! The king on h1 feels quite trapped. Black has a priviledged situation with his own monarch, as White cannot even dream about attacking him.

41.♖g1 c3 42.h3 c2 43.♕xe5 ♕c4 44.♕e1 ♔a6 45.♕c1 ♕e2-+

41...c3 42.♕xe5 c2 43.♖c1

43.h3 ♕xf1+-+

43...♕d1+ 44.♔f2



44...♕d2+!

44...♕xc1 45.♕e4+ ♔c7 46.♕e5+ ♖d6-+

45.♔g3 ♖d3+ 46.♔h4 ♕xg2 0-1

BOSSA NOVA

By GM Rafael Leitão

SOUTH AMERICAN HIGHLIGHTS

After a long pause tournaments are getting back in Brazil. We finally had our National Championship (not organised in 2020) and in this article I am going to show some of the interesting games from the tournament. I will also cover some of the highlights of South American players during the Grand Swiss Tournament in Riga. There were so many good games that I think a whole book could be wrtitten about it!

Rafael Leitão

- **Country:** Brazil
- **Born:** 1979
- **Rating:** 2592
- **Peak rating:** 2652
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 1998

Brazilian Championship

We suffered from a lack of events in Brazil for the whole 2020 and the better part of 2021. The chess enthusiasts were eager to follow the tournament, with the audience in one online channel passing the 10.000 spectactors mark! This shows that Brazil has a huge number of chess fans and the Federation should address them more carefully - during the tournament we had very few DGT boards and this made the online transmission really difficult.

Although the Swiss format is not best suited for a National Championship, it was nice to see grandmasters and amateurs together, everyone hungry for live over-the-board chess after so many online events. Both the Open and Women's tournament were held at the same time. And the title went to young players who will certainly be in the front line of Brazilian chess for many years to come.

GM Luis Paulo Supi is the young gun of Brazilian chess. He is well known for his online blitz abilities and many considered him the favorite to win the title. He did not disappoint. Supi is currently Brazil's biggest hope, still young and getting closer to the 2600 mark. It's a pity that he almost could not play any chess in the last 2 years, otherwise he might already have crossed this mark. He became the Champion thanks to the better tie break score (ahead of GMs Alexandr Fier and Darcy Lima), with a solid 9 out of 11.

Let's start the commentary with a game that is characteristic of his style.

CUIABÁ, X–XI 2021
The 87th Brazilian Championship
(205 players, 11 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1–3. Supi, A. Fier, Dar. Lima 9, 4. Mekhitarian 8½, 5–12. Y. Santiago, Ch. Gauche, Di Berardino, Luc. A. Cunha, V. Labussière, Si. Oliveira, N. Filgueiras, Proudian 8, 13–26. Quintiliano Pinto, Umetsubo, Ro. Molina, J. Bittencourt, L. Brito, Aranha Filho, E. Matsuura, I. Cadilhac, Ev. Barbosa, E. Veiga, Sega, Gea. Pereira, Vi. F. Rocha, Lucas H. Silva 7½, etc.

B52
Santiago, Yago de Moura (2478) - Supi, Luis Paulo (2572)
Brazil (ch), 2021

Luís Paulo Supi

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+ ♗d7 4.♗xd7+ ♘xd7 An alternative.

More popular is 4...♕xd7

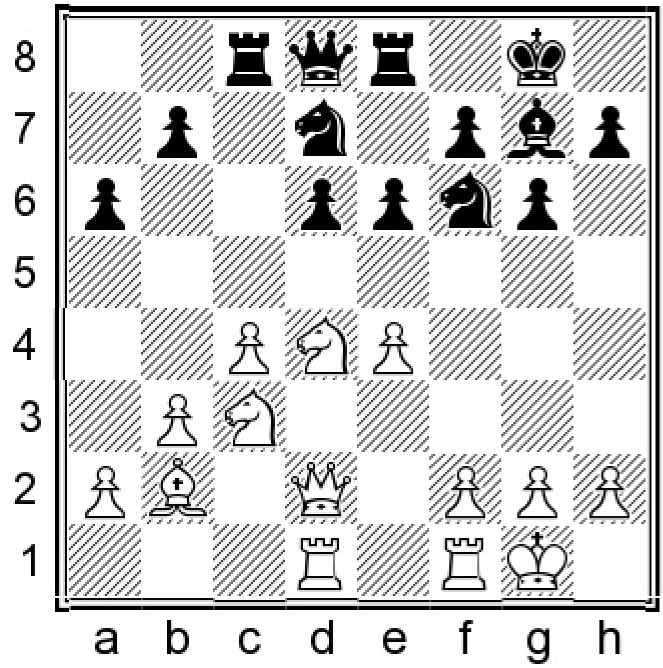
5.O-O ♘gf6 6.♕e2 ♖c8 7.b3 g6 8.♗b2 ♗g7 Supi is a very good online blitz player and has many games against the world's best. This is surely helping him to improve and gain confidence. This position, for instance, he played online against none other than Nepomniachtchi.

9.c4

9.d4 cxd4 10.♘xd4 ♘c5 11.♘d2 O-O 12.c4= Nepomniachtchi,Ian 2784 - Supi,Luis Paulo 2572, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020 with a similar position.

9...O-O 10.d4 cxd4 11.♘xd4 a6 The young GM is a specialist in the Hedghehog positions and goes for that structure whenever he can. It suits his playing style well - waiting patiently until there is a chance to execute a counter-attack.

12.♘c3 e6 13.♖ad1 ♖e8 14.♕d2



14...♕a5N

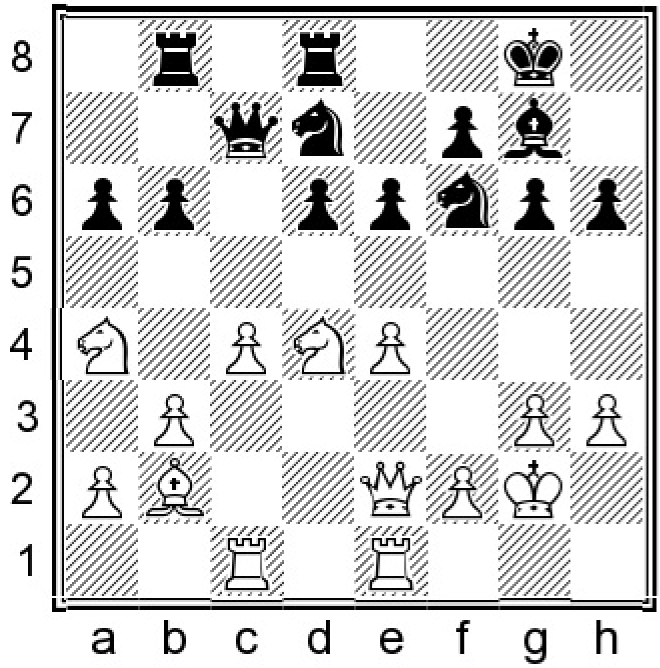
14...d5! If Black was interested in making a draw, than this move could be played. With a few precise moves, equality is assured. For instance: 15.exd5 exd5 16.cxd5 (16.♘xd5 ♘xd5 17.cxd5 ♘f6=) 16...♘c5! (16...♘b6 17.♘f3) 17.♖fe1 ♘ce4 18.♘xe4 ♘xe4 19.♕b4 ♕xd5 20.♘f3 ♕f5 21.♗xg7 ♔xg7 22.♕xb7 ♘c3 23.♖xe8 ♖xe8 24.♕d7 ♕xd7 25.♖xd7 ♘xa2=

15.♖fe1 ♖ed8 16.♕e2 ♘h5 17.♕e3 h6 18.g3 ♘hf6 19.h3 ♕h5 20.♔g2 ♕c5 This going back and forth is typical in these positions, although I understand everyone who has difficulties playing like that. Objectively White is better, but if he wants to win he will have to push forward and then Black gets his chances.

21.♕e2 ♖b8 22.♘a4

22.♖d2± would continue the waiting police, but Yago decides to engage some action.

22...♕c7 23.♖c1 b6



24.b4!? Going forward! The plan with the b5-push and then placing the knight on c6 is typical, although double edged.

24.♘c3 - after this both players could keep manoeuvring for 50 moves more.

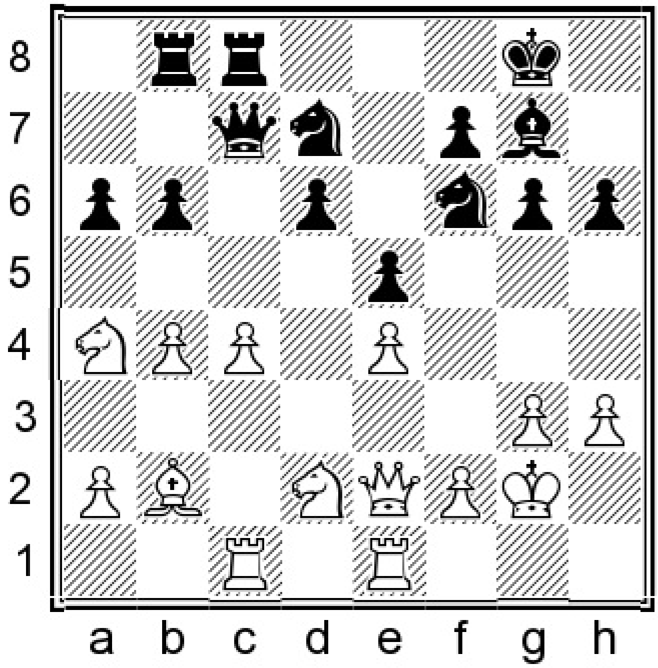
24...e5 Supi decides to push White's knight back, although weakening the pawn structure.

With 24...♕b7 Black could prepare a typical Petrosian sacrifice. 25.b5 ♖dc8!? 26.♘c6 ♖xc6 27.bxc6 ♕xc6 28.♘c3 I think Black has a good compensation.

25.♘b3?! The wrong square. Now the knights are a bit clumsy.

25.♘c2! heading for e3. 25...h5 (25...b5 26.cxb5 axb5 27.♘c3 ♕b7 28.♖cd1±) 26.♘c3 ♗h6 27.♖cd1 ♖bc8 28.♘e3 (28.b5!?) 28...♗xe3 29.♕xe3 ♕xc4 30.♖xd6 ♕xb4 31.♕d2⩱∞

25...♖dc8 26.♘d2



26...h5! A very good move, activating the bishop and keeping an eye on the h4 push.

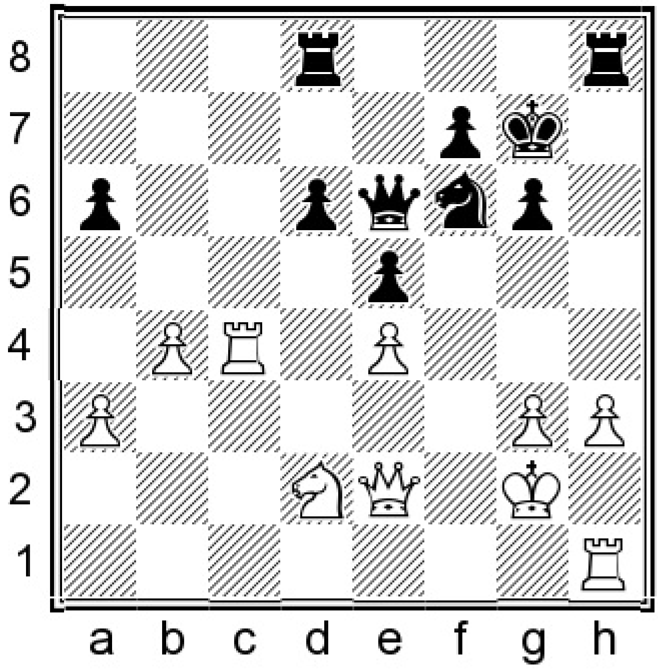
27.♘c3 ♗h6 28.♘d5 ♕d8 29.♘xf6+ ♘xf6 30.♖cd1 ♕e7 31.♘b3?

31.♘f3 was still enough to keep the balance. 31...♕e6 32.♗c1 ♗f8 33.♗g5!=

31...h4!∓ Now the position is really bad for White with a weakened king and pawn structure. Supi doesn't give any chance to his rival and plays perfect chess to clinch the game.

32.♗c1 ♗xc1 33.♖xc1 hxg3 34.fxg3 ♔g7 35.♘d2 b5! The first thematic hedghehog rupture arrives.

36.a3 ♕e6 37.♕d3 ♖h8 38.♖h1 ♖bd8 39.♕e2 bxc4 40.♖xc4



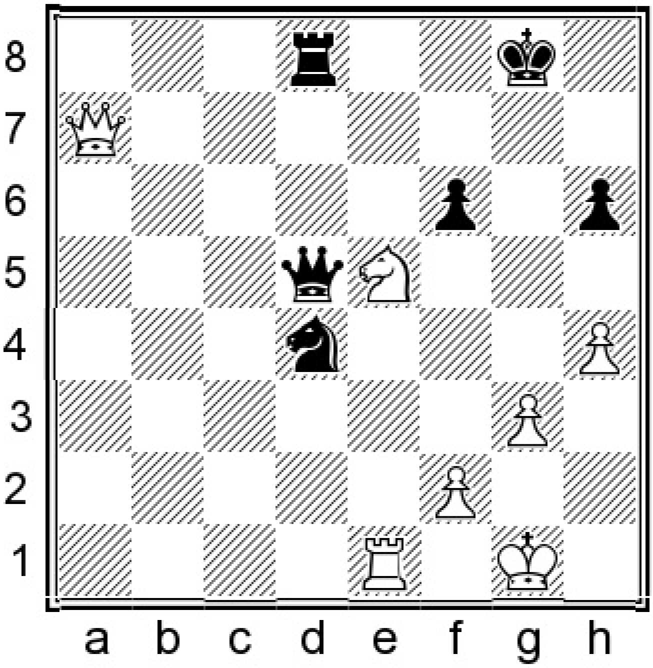
40...d5! Now comes the second thematic hedgehog break which proves to be decisive.

41.♖c2 ♖c8 42.♖xc8 ♖xc8-+ 43.♘b3 ♘xe4 44.♖c1 ♖xc1 45.♘xc1 ♘c3 46.♕e1 d4 47.♘d3 e4 0-1

Let's continue with more highlights from the grandmaster games. GM Krikor Mekhitarian played a couple of interesting endgames, as we shall see. It's a pity that the time control without the increment after the 40th move creates serious damage to endgame play.

After a tense struggle, where White missed his chances, this complicated position ensued with both players in time trouble. It seems very dangerous for White, but there is a way out.

Di Berardino, Diego Rafael (2471) - Mekhitarian, Krikor Sevag (2560)
Brazil (ch), 2021



42.♖e4?! A creative move, but not the best.

42.♕a6! would force a draw. 42...fxe5 (42...♖f8 43.♕d3 fxe5 44.♕g6+=) 43.♕g6+ ♔h8 44.♕xh6+ with perpetual check.

42.♕b6 is the same.

42...♘f3+

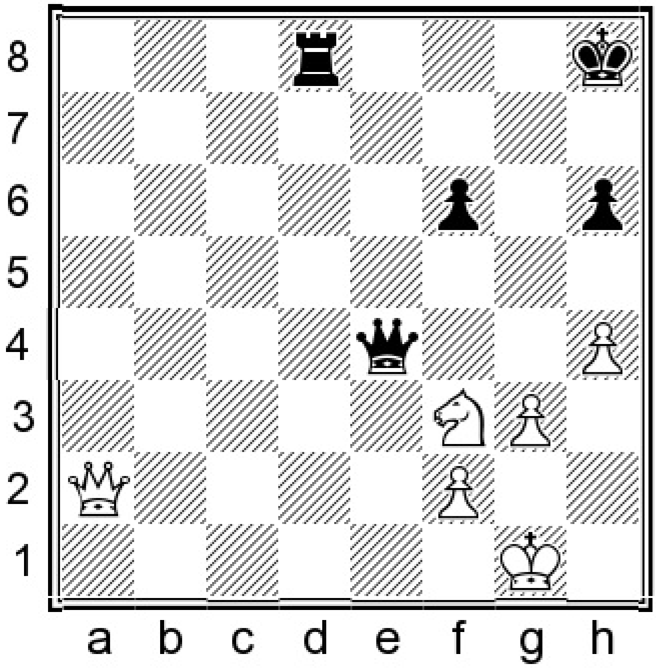
42...fxe5! with little time on the clock it is difficult to go for a king walk, but that was good for Black. 43.♖g4+ ♔f8 44.♕g7+ ♔e8 45.♕h8+ ♔d7 46.♖g7+ ♔c6 47.♕xh6+ ♔b5∓ It would be difficult to resist this position with White against such a monster knight.

43.♘xf3 ♕xe4 Now we get an interesting endgame. White should hold, but there are still tricks available for Black.

44.♕a2+

44.♔g2 ♖d3 45.♕b8+ ♔f7 46.♕c7+ ♔g6 47.h5+! ♔xh5 48.♕f7+ ♔g4 (48...♕g6?? 49.g4+) 49.♕g7+ ♔h5=

44...♔h8



45.♘h2?! White should have kept the knight on active position.

45.♕a3!=

45...♖d1+ 46.♘f1 ♕d3 47.♕a8+ ♔g7 48.♕b7+ ♔g6 49.♕g2? Now White is too passive and the position is losing.

49.h5+ ♔xh5 50.♕f7+ ♔g5 51.♕g7+ ♔f5 (51...♕g6 52.♕e7) 52.♕h7+ and White should hold, but not without some suffering.

49...♖e1 50.♕h3 h5 51.♕g2 ♔f5 52.♕h3+ ♔e5 53.♕g2 Black should be winning, but how? The correct plan is to prepare f4 at the right moment.

53...♔d4?! Allowing White to gain space.

53...♖c1 54.♕h3 (54.f4+ ♔f5 55.♕h3+ ♔e4-+) 54...f5-+ transposing to the plan we will see later.

53...f5?! 54.f4+! ♔d6 55.♕f2

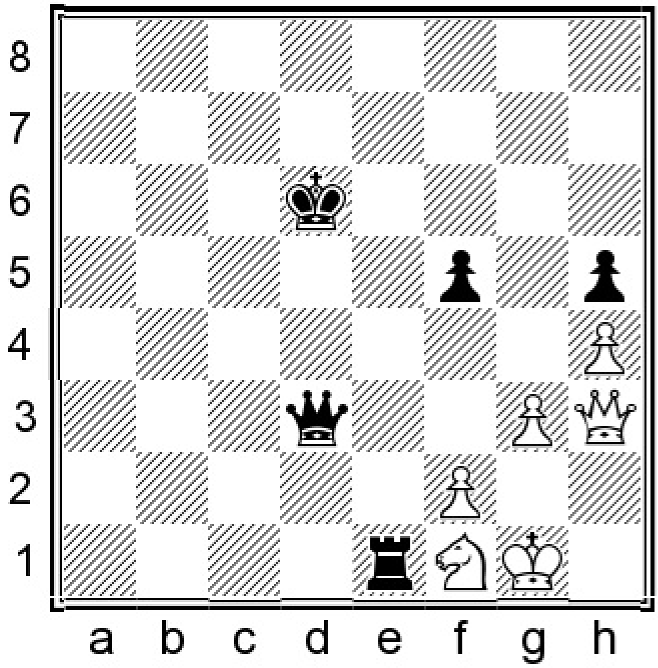
54.♕h3?!

54.g4! hxg4 55.♕xg4+ was a chance to get active.

54...f5! 55.♕g2 ♕e2 56.♕h3 Now Black has to prepare the f4 advance at the right moment.

56...♔e4 57.♕g2+ ♔d4 58.♕h3 ♕f3 59.♕g2 ♕d3 60.♕h3 ♔c3

60...♔e5! 61.♕g2 ♔d6! 62.♕h3



62...f4! Perfect timing! Black is safe against checks and the game is over. 63.♕g2 f3 64.♕h3 ♕e2 Zugzwang.

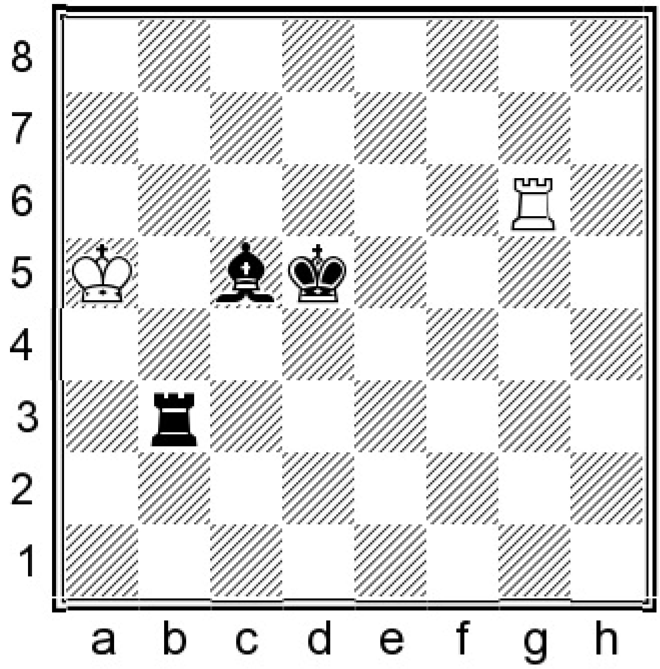
61.♕g2 ♔c2? - and now it's a draw.

61...♔d4

62.♕c6+ ♔b3 63.♕b7+ ♔a2 64.♕a7+ ♔b2 65.♕b6+ ♔c1 66.♕c6+ ♕c2 67.♕h6+ ♔d1 68.♕d6+ ♔c1 69.♕h6+ ♔b1 70.♕b6+ ♔c1 1/2-1/2

It's curious that during my career I have never played the ♖ + ♗ versus ♖ endgame. This is not an easy endgame to defend with little time on the clock. As it happens so often, the defending side makes a fatal mistake...

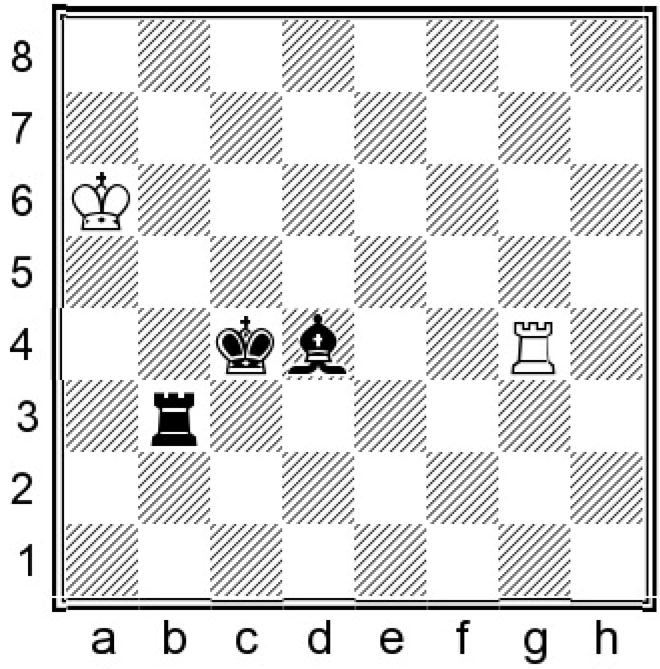
Piccoli, Lucas Fonseca (2075) - Mekhitarian, Krikor Sevag (2560)
Brazil (ch), 2021



102.♖g5+? What could be more natural than a check? But this move loses and it was necessary to wait.

102.♖h6 ♔c4 103.♔a6! White must keep the control of the b6-square.

102...♔c4 103.♖g4+ ♗d4 104.♔a6



104...♖b6+! This is the problem.

105.♔a5 ♖h6! 106.♖f4

106.♖e4 ♖h1! 107.♔a6 ♖h7!-+

106...♖h7 0-1

A sensation was made by a dangerous Fide Master who is well known in Brazil - Charles Gauche. Charlinho, as we call him, had the tournament of his life and almost made a GM norm. This is a great story for all those that love chess - you can have good results and maybe even a GM norm despite being over 45. The most important thing is to have a passion for chess and continue working on your game.

Charlinho has good feel for the game with the initiative and an unshakable optimism. Let's see one game and a fragment from his great tournament.

B52
Barbosa, Evandro Amorim (2509) - Gauche, Charles (2155)
Brazil (ch), 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+ Again the check that is so annoying for the Sicilian players.

3...♗d7 4.♗xd7+ ♕xd7 5.O-O e6 6.♕e2 ♘c6 7.♖d1 ♘f6 8.d4 cxd4 9.♘xd4 ♗e7 10.c4 O-O 11.♘c3 And again the Hedgehog structure.

11...♖fc8

11...a6 12.b3 ♖ac8 13.♗b2 ♖fd8 14.♘c2 ♕c7 15.♘e3 ♕a5= was played in Bruzon Batista,Lazaro 2682 - Ivanchuk,Vassily 2753, La Habana 2014

12.b3± As always, White is slightly better in these positions.

12...♘xd4

12...a6

13.♖xd4 ♕c6 14.♗b2 a6 15.a4

15.♖ad1 b5 16.cxb5 axb5 17.♖b4±

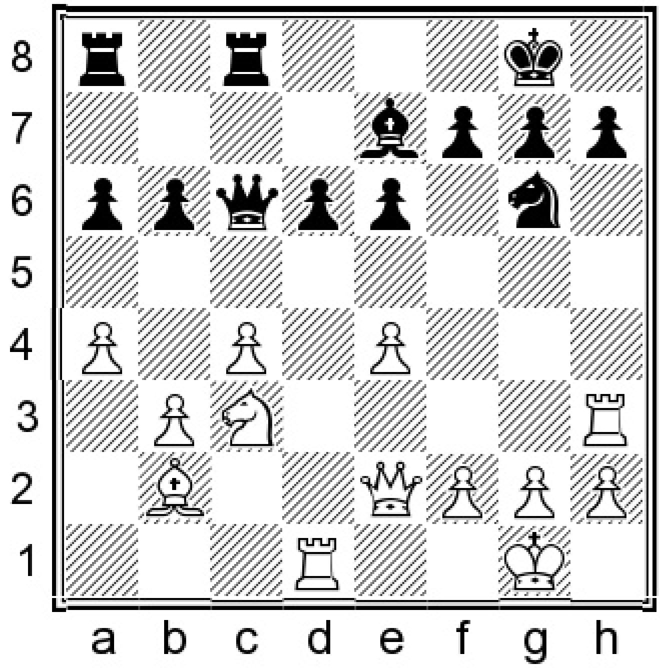
15...b6?!N

15...♘d7=

16.♖ad1 ♘d7 17.♖4d3± ♘e5

17...♘c5?! 18.♖h3 ♘xb3? 19.♕h5 h6 20.♘d5 exd5 21.♗xg7+-

18.♖h3 ♘g6 This is a highly instructive moment. How to increase White's pressure?

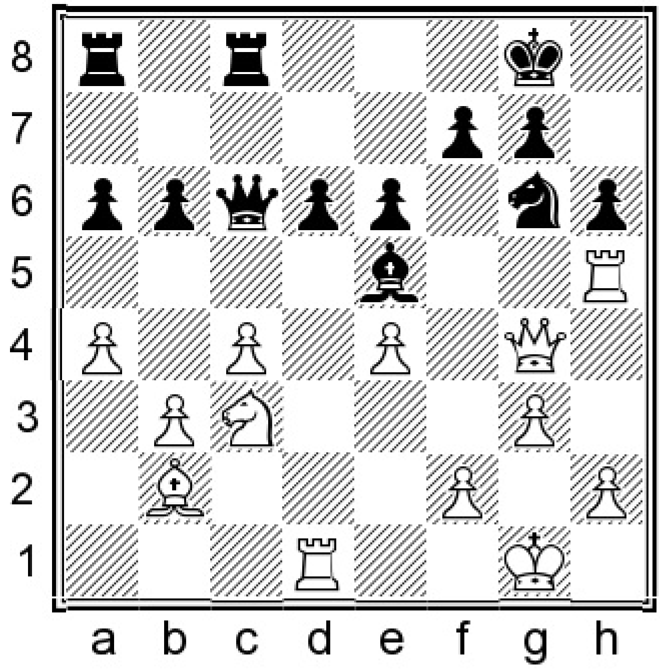


19.♕h5?! The first step in the wrong direction. It seems to me that the GM playing White could not find an attacking plan and decided to play some menacing moves. But in chess we must always strive to play with harmony. Although we do not always manage it, that should always be the goal.

19.♗c1!± Preparing f4-f5 would be very unpleasant. This is the ideal solution, and it seems to be taken from a strategic exercise puzzle book. White redeploys the bishop and gets ready for the attacking plan. 19...♕c5 20.♔h1 ♗f6 21.f4 ♗xc3 22.♖xc3 b5 23.h4!↑ with the initiative.

19...h6 20.♕g4 ♗f6⇄ 21.♖h5? White misplayed the heavy pieces.

21...♗e5!-+ 22.g3



22...b5! The typical hedgehog breakthrough again. White went from much better to completely lost position in the space of 3 moves.

23.h4

23.axb5 axb5 24.cxb5 ♕c5 25.♖c1 ♕b4-+

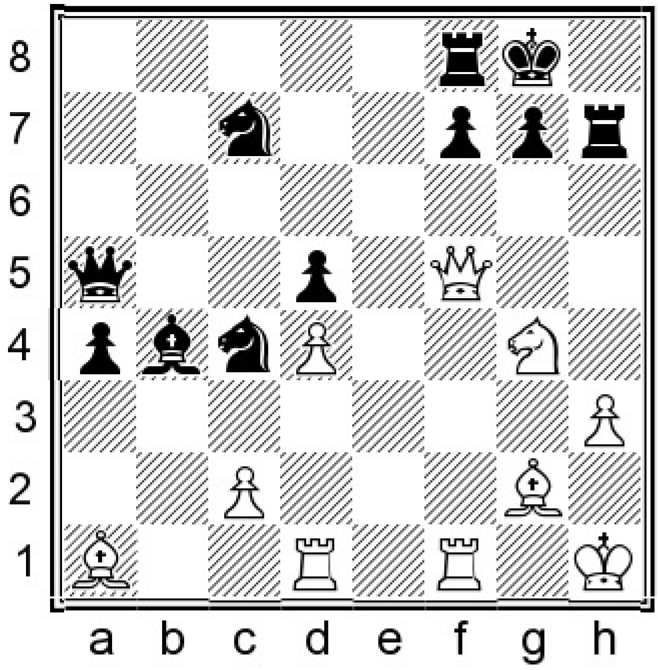
23...bxc4

23...b4-+

24.b4 ♕b6 25.b5 axb5 26.axb5 ♕c5 27.♖c1 ♕b4 28.♕e2 ♗d4 29.♔g2 ♘e5 30.♖c2 ♕b3 31.b6 ♕xb6 32.♕d2 ♘d3 33.♖b5 ♕c6 34.♖h5 ♗xc3 35.♗xc3 ♕xe4+ 0-1

As a coach I now watch games from the tournaments I follow with a different approach. Always on the lookout for good training positions. This one caught my attention - How to play with the white pieces?

Gauche, Charles (2155) - Bittencourt, Jorge (2414)
Brazil (ch), 2021



35.♖d3? Missing the chance.

35.♘f6+! A deadly sacrifice! 35...gxf6 36.♗e4! ♖h6 (36...♖g7 37.♖g1+-; 36...dxe4 37.♖g1+ ♖g7 38.♖xg7+ ♔xg7 39.♖g1+) 37.♕g4+! (37.♖g1+? ♔h8 38.♕g4 ♘e6-+) 37...♔h8 38.♖xf6!+- - the point of White's combination. 38...♖xf6 39.♕h4+ ♔g7 40.♕h7#

35...♗d6 36.♖g1 ♕a8? A blunder.

36...♔h8∞

37.♘f6+ 1-0

In the women's tournament we saw a race between Juliana Terao, Julia Alboredo and Kathie Librelato, all of them members of the Olympic team and pre-tournament favourites. In the end victory went to Alboredo (shared first with Terao and won thanks to better tiebreak score). I will analyse the clash between Terao and Alboredo and highlight the most critical moments.

B22
Terao, Juliana Sayumi (2252) - Alboredo, Julia (2183)
Brazil (ch), 2021

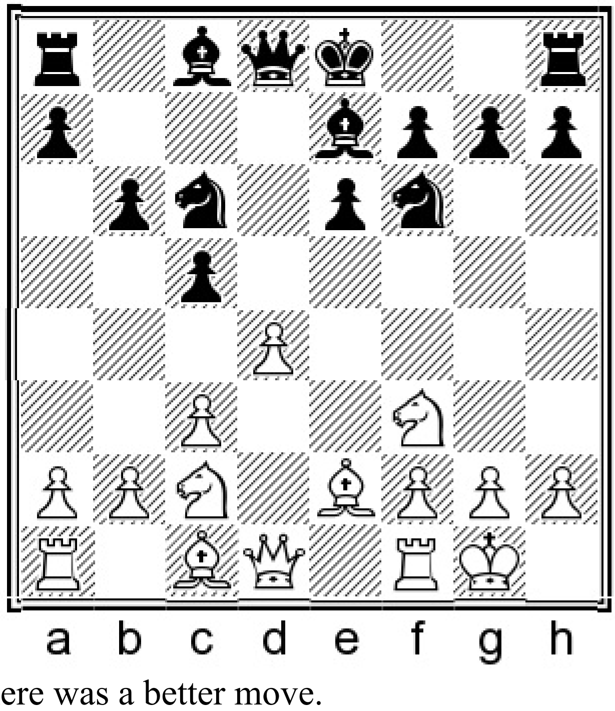
1.e4 c5 2.c3 Terao has played the Alapin during all her career.

2...d5 3.exd5 ♕xd5 4.d4 ♘c6 5.♘f3 ♘f6 6.♗e2 e6 7.♘a3 ♕d8 8.♘c2 b6 9.O-O

9.♗b5 Sveshnikov, Evgeny 2545 - Dorfman,Josif 2595, USSR 1979 - 28/310

9...♗e7?!

9...♗b7 is more precise, avoiding any troubles with the pinned knight on c6.



10.♗b5 Very tempting, but there was a better move.

10.dxc5! is more precise. 10...bxc5 (10...♕xd1 11.♖xd1 bxc5 12.♗b5 - this is the point. 12...♗b7 (12...♗d7? 13.♖xd7) 13.♘e5 ♖c8 14.♘c4 O-O 15.♗f4±) 11.♕xd8+ ♗xd8 12.♖d1± with a comfortable advantage. (12.♗b5±)

10...♗d7

10...♗b7 11.♘e5 looks very dangerous.

11.dxc5 bxc5 12.♘e3?!

12.♗f4 O-O 13.♘a3±

12...O-O 13.♗a4 ♕c7 14.♘c4 ♖ad8 Black has equalised.

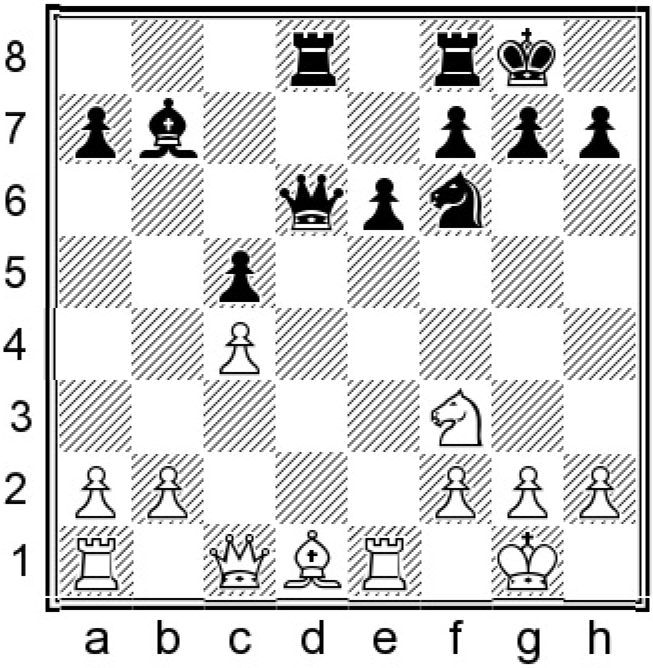
15.♖e1 ♗c8 16.♗d2 ♗a6 17.♗b3 ♘a5! 18.♘xa5 ♕xa5 19.c4

19.♘e5 ♕c7∓

19...♕c7 20.♕c1 ♗b7 21.♗f4 ♗d6 22.♗xd6 ♕xd6

22...♖xd6! 23.♕f4 ♗xf3! 24.♕xf3 ♖d4 25.h3 ♖fd8∓

23.♗d1 Black has a dream position with more active pieces and a good pawn structure (despite 3 pawn islands). But how to improve the initiative?



23...♘e4

23...♘g4 24.h3 ♗xf3 25.hxg4∓ ♗b7;

23...♕c7!? 24.h3 ♗xf3 25.♗xf3 ♖d4∓

24.♗c2

24.♕e3 ♘d2 25.♘xd2 ♕xd2 26.♕e5∓

24...♘f6

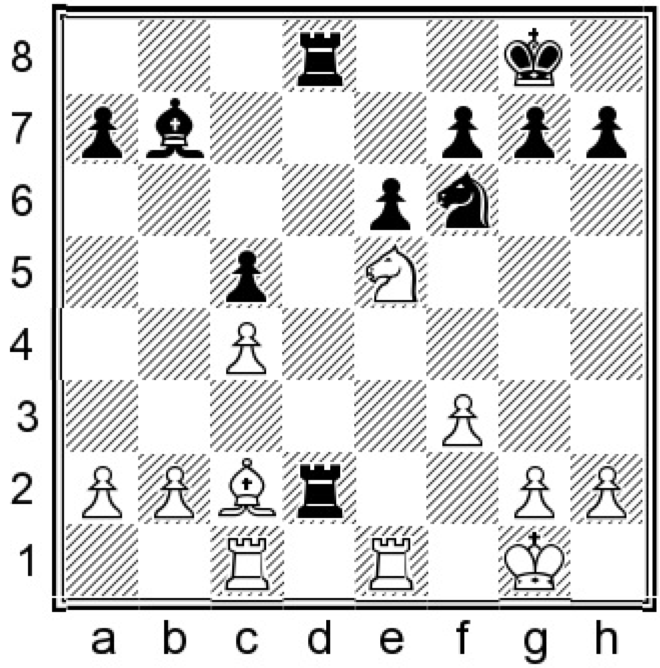
24...♘d2 25.♘xd2 ♕xd2∓

25.♘e5 ♕d2

25...♕c7∓

26.♕xd2 ♖xd2 27.♖ac1 ♖fd8 28.f3?! This makes White's position very dangerous. I see this again as a dream position for a coach: a very good training position with a complex solution.

28.♖ed1=



28...♘h5?!

28...♖8d4! Profilaxis! 29.♗a4!∓ (29.♖ed1? ♖xc2-+)

29.♔f1?

29.♘d3! An amazing move! 29...♖8xd3 30.♗xd3 ♖xd3 31.♖cd1! The only way. (31.♖e5? ♘f4; 31.♖ed1? ♖d4) 31...♖d4□ 32.♖xd4 cxd4 33.♖e5 The position is dangerous for Black. 33...g6□ 34.♖b5 ♗a6! (34...♗c6? 35.♖b8+ ♔g7 36.♖c8±) 35.♖b8+ ♔g7 36.b3 ♘f4 37.♔f1 e5 38.♖a8 d3 39.♖xa7 ♗c8 40.♔e1 ♘xg2+ 41.♔d2 ♗f5 42.b4 ♘h4 43.♔e3 ♘g2+=

29...f6?

29...♘f4! This would be winnning. 30.g3 f6-+ (30...♘h3 31.♖e2 f6-+)

30.♘g4∓ ♔f7 31.♘f2 Black was still better, but the game endend in a draw.

31...♘f4 32.♖e3 e5 33.♖a3 a6 34.♖b3 ♖8d7?!

34...♗c8

35.♗f5 ♘e6 36.♖b6?!

36.♖cc3±

36...♖2d6 37.♖xd6 ♖xd6 38.♗xe6+ ♔xe6 39.♔e2 ♖d4 40.♖c3 ♔d6 41.♘g4 e4 42.fxe4 ♖xe4+ 43.♘e3 f5 44.♔f2 g6 45.♖b3 ♔c7 46.♖c3 ♖f4+ 47.♔e2 ♖h4 48.h3 ♖e4 49.♔f2 ♖f4+ 50.♔e2 ♖e4 51.♔f2 g5 52.b3 ♖f4+ 53.♔e2 ♖e4 54.♔f2 ♖f4+ 1/2-1/2

Riga Grand Swiss

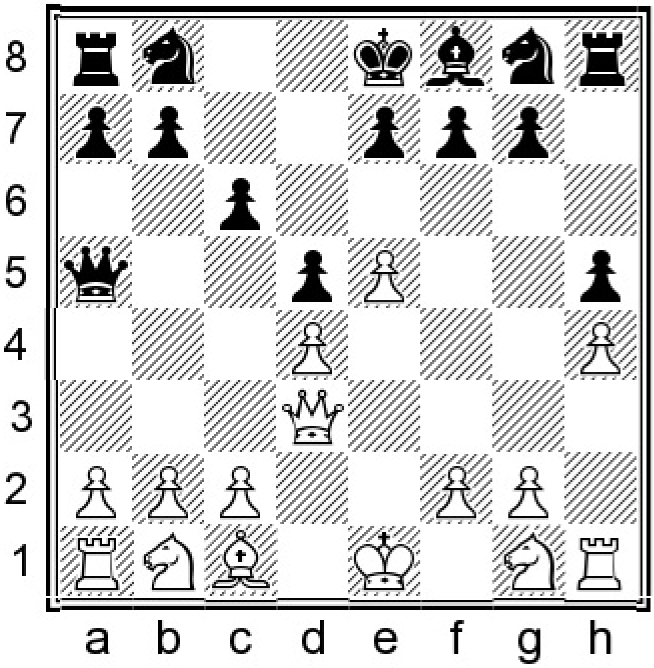
I was ready to make this article "Brazilian only", but a few days before my deadline the Grand Swiss finished and I could not ignore it. A few South American players were present and showed good chess. I would like to honour these warriors.

Let's start by analysing a game from a big hope of Argentina, GM Alan Pichot. It is true that Brazil and Argentina have a big rivalry when it comes to football, but when it comes to chess, we get along very well and always support each other. I like Pichot's style very much: a big fighter, not afraid of anyone, always searching for dynamic positions. In this game he played an interesting sacrifice in a topical variation of the Caro-Kann. The Caro-Kann is a good and solid defence and a nice adittion to the repertoire of any grandmaster. But here is an advice for all amateur chess players around the world who have chess as a hobby and just want to have fun: life is too short to be spent playing the Caro-Kann only.

B12
Pichot, Alan (2628) - Gretarsson, Hjorvar Steinn (2577)
Riga, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5 4.h4 The current fashion.

4...h5 5.♗d3 ♗xd3 6.♕xd3 ♕a5+ Firouzja played this move recently, so it must be good. (Shirov,Alexei 2659 - Firouzja, Alireza 2770, Riga 2021)



7.b4!? A daring sacrifice. White wants to win some tempi and open the b-file, thus leaving Black's king with no safe shelter.

7.♘d2 e6 8.♘e2 (8.♘f3 Kollars,Dmitrij 2510 - Saric,Ivan 2621, Helsingor 2017 - 133/46) 8...♘e7

9.b4 Here it comes again. 9...♕a6 10.♕b3= was played in Caruana,Fabiano 2800 - Firouzja,Alireza 2770, Riga 2021

7...♕xb4+ 8.♘d2 e6 9.♖b1 ♕e7 10.♘e2 A fresh position that demands further testing. White has good compensation, although a pawn is a pawn.

10...b5! 11.♘f3 ♘a6 12.O-O

12.♘f4 ♘c7 13.♘g5= Cheparinov,Ivan 2659 - Anton Guijarro,David 2658, Espana 2021

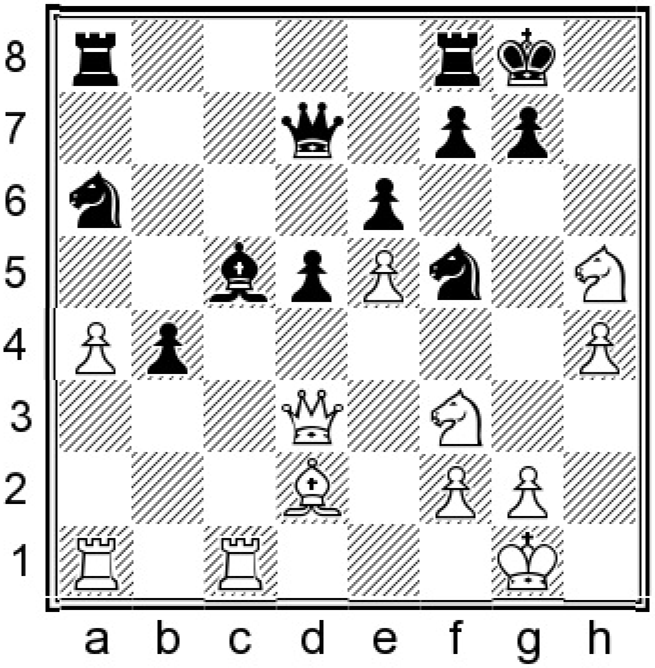
12...♘c7 13.a4=∞ ♕d7 14.♘f4

14.♘g5! I think this was a better try to keep the initiative. 14...♘h6 (14...♗e7 15.♕f3=∞; 14...g6 15.♕f3 ♘h6 16.♕f6! ♖g8 17.♘h7 ♘f5 18.♘xf8 ♖xf8 19.♘g3 ♕d8 20.♘xf5 ♕xf6 21.♘d6+ ♔d7 22.exf6 ♔xd6 23.♗a3+ ♔d7 24.♗xf8 ♖xf8 25.f3!± with the idea of playing g4) 15.♘h7! A nice idea. 15...♘f5 (15...♗e7? 16.♗xh6 gxh6 17.♘f4+-) 16.♘xf8 ♔xf8 17.♗g5=∞

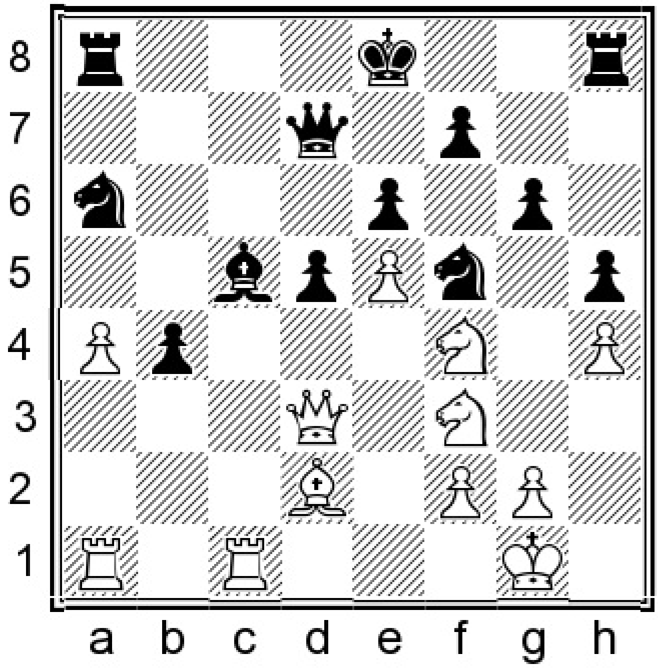
14...a5 15.♗d2 ♘e7 16.♖a1 b4 17.c3 ♘f5 18.cxb4 axb4 19.♖fc1 ♘a6∓ Gretarsson played very well and managed to neutralise White's initiative.

20.♕c2 c5 21.dxc5 ♗xc5 22.♕d3! g6? A blunder. Black had no time to defend the h5-pawn.

22...O-O! This is a diffficult move, but solves Black's problems. It looks dangerous to give the h5-pawn and castle in the middle of these knights, but that was the way to go. 23.♘xh5



23...♕a7! Black is just in time to rearrange his pieces. 24.♗e1 (24.♖f1 ♗e7!; 24.g4 ♗xf2+ 25.♔h1 ♘xh4) 24...♗e7! with the idea of Nc5-e4



23.♕b5!+- Suddenly White is winning.

23...♘d4

23...♗e7 24.♖c6!+- ♘c7 25.♕b7

24.♘xd4 ♗xd4 25.♖ab1 ♗xe5 26.♘d3

26.♖c6 ♘c7 27.♕b7 O-O 28.♘d3 ♗d6 29.♗xb4+-

26...♗c3

26...♗d6 27.♖c6+-; 26...♗f6 27.♖c6+-

27.♗xc3 bxc3 28.♖xc3 ♖b8

28...♕xb5 29.axb5 O-O 30.bxa6 ♖xa6 31.♖b7+-

29.♕xb8+ ♘xb8 30.♖xb8+ ♔e7 31.♖xh8 ♕xa4 32.♖hc8 ♔f6 33.♘c5 ♕d1+ 34.♔h2 ♕d4 35.♖f3+ ♔g7 36.g3 ♕e5 37.♖f8 f5 38.♖e3 ♕b2 39.♘xe6+ ♔h6 40.♔g2 1-0

Jorge Cori, from Peru, is a phenomenal talent. Many times World Champion at different ages, he is a great fighter with his own vision of chess. His positional understanding is very deep and many times he wins games by outmanouvering his opponents. I liked very much his win against Martirosyan.

D37
Cori Tello, Jorge (2655) - Martirosyan, Haik M (2624)
Riga, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 ♗e7 5.♗f4 O-O 6.e3 ♘bd7 A rock solid variation, played by many top players.

7.c5 c6 8.h3 h6 9.a3 b6 10.b4 a5 11.♗d3 ♗a6 12.O-O ♕c8 13.♕c2 ♕b7 14.♖fb1 ♗xd3 15.♕xd3 axb4

15...♖fc8

16.axb4 ♖xa1

16...♖fc8

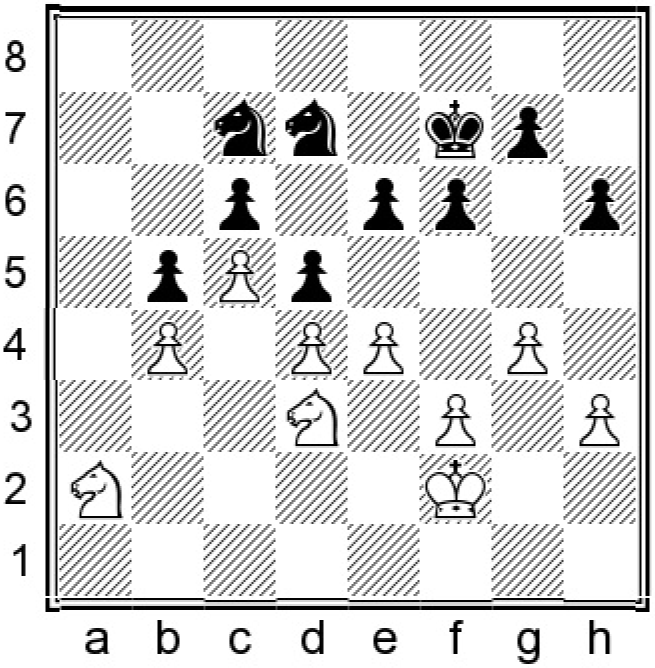
17.♖xa1 ♖a8 18.♕b1 ♗d8 19.♖xa8 ♕xa8 This is the classical endgame in this variation. White is trying to squeeze a tiny advantage with more space, but Black has no weaknesses.

20.♕a2 ♕b7 21.♕a4 b5 22.♕a2 ♘e8 23.♘e1N

23.♘b1

23...♘c7 24.♘d3 ♕a6 25.f3 ♕xa2 26.♘xa2 ♘a6 27.♔f2 f6 28.e4 ♔f7 29.g4 ♗c7 30.♗xc7 ♘xc7?!

30...dxe4! Black should have played this intermediate move to change the pawn structure. 31.fxe4 ♘xc7 32.♘c3 f5! 33.♔f3 fxe4+ 34.♔xe4 (34.♘xe4 e5!=) 34...♔f6=



31.e5!± Now White gets a favourable pawn structure and manages to create more problems.

31...f5 32.♘ac1 g5 33.♘b3 fxg4

33...♘a6

34.hxg4 ♘a6 35.♘a5 ♘ab8 36.f4 gxf4 37.♘xf4 ♘f8 38.♔e3

38.♘b7 ♔e7 39.♔g3 ♘a6 40.♔h4 ♘xb4 41.♔h5 ♘c2 42.♘e2 b4 43.♘a5 ♔f7 44.♔xh6 ♘e3 with good drawing chances.

38...♘g6 39.♘h5 ♘e7 40.♔d3 ♔g6 41.♘f6 ♘a6 42.♔c3 ♔g5 43.♘b7 ♔g6 44.♘d8 ♘c7 45.♔d2

♔g5 46.♔e3 ♔h4

46...♘a6! 47.♘xe6+ ♔h4=

47.♔d3 ♔g5 48.♔d2 ♔g6 49.♔e3 ♘a6

49...♔g5? 50.♔f3 ♔g6 51.♘h5+-

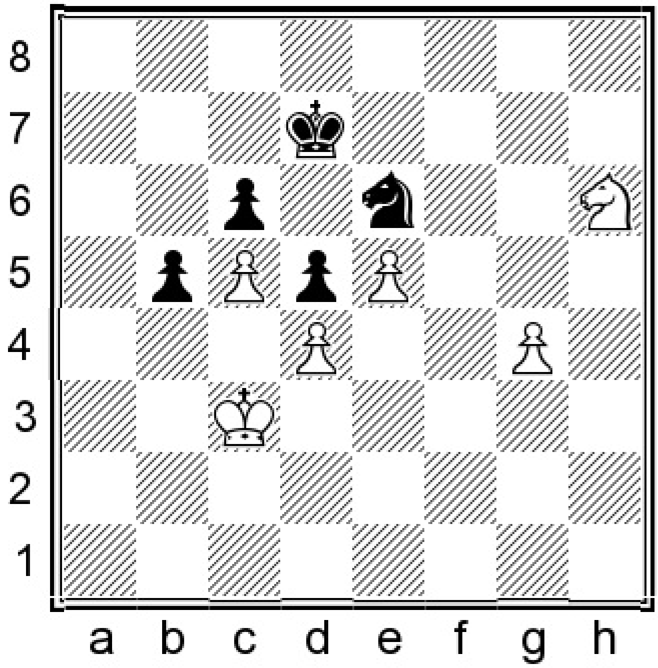
50.♘xe6 ♘xb4 51.♔d2 ♘a6?

51...♔f7= 52.♘f4 ♘g6

52.♘h5 ♔f7 53.♘hf4 ♘g6 54.♘d8+ ♔e8 55.♘xg6 ♔xd8 56.♘h4 ♘c7 57.♘f5 ♘e6 58.♔c3

58.♔e3!

58...♔d7 59.♘xh6 A very interesting endgame has arisen.



59...♘g5

59...b4+! 60.♔d3 ♔c7 (60...♔e7? 61.♘f5+ ♔d7 62.♔c2+-) 61.♘f5 ♔b7 62.♔c2 (62.♘e7 ♔c7) 62...♔a6=

60.♘f5 ♘e6 61.♘e3 ♘g5?

61...b4+ 62.♔d3 ♔c7=

62.♘c2 ♘e6 63.♘e1? Allowing Black's counterplay.

63.♘b4+-

63...♘g5

63...b4+! and Black should be able to make a draw.

64.♔d3 ♘e4

64...♘e6 65.♘f3+-

65.♔c2 ♘g5 66.♘d3 ♘e6 67.♔c3 ♔e7 68.♘b4 ♔d7 69.♔d3 ♘f4+ 70.♔e3 ♘e6 71.♘c2 ♔e7 72.♘e1 ♘g5 73.♘f3 ♘e4 74.g5 ♔f8 75.♔d3 ♔f7 76.♔c2 ♘g3 77.♔c3 ♘f5 78.♔b4+- White finally breaks through.

And, finally, it was impossible to mention the Grand Swiss and not show the greatest clash of this tournament: Villagra versus Shirov. The young Chilean improving fast and played a good tournament. His chess is very enterprising and this one is surely one the craziest games of the year!

A48
Henriquez Villagra, Cristobal (2608) - Shirov, Alexei (2659)
Riga, 2021

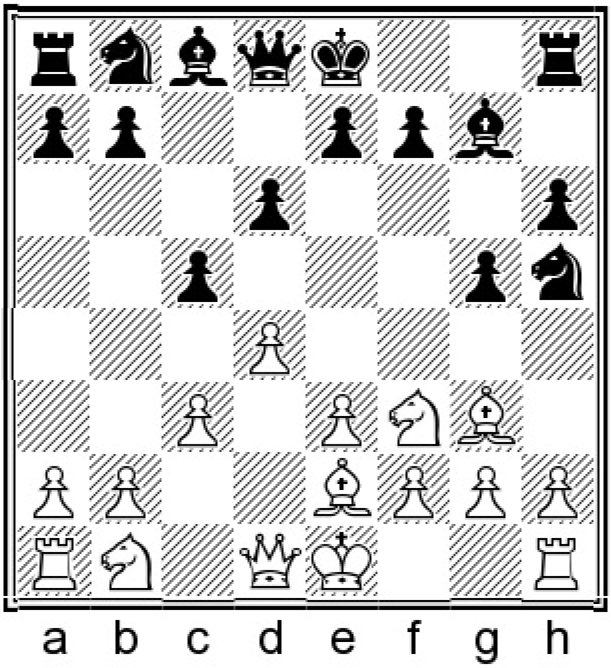
1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.♗f4 Who could guess 15 years ago that the London System, once known for its extra solid and boring play, will be now played by aggressive players that want a good fight in creative positions. The world keeps turning and sometimes leads us into unexpected directions.

3...♗g7 4.e3 d6 5.♗e2 ♘h5 Aiming for a complicated game.

6.♗g5 h6 7.♗h4 g5 8.♗g3

8.♘fd2 is more popular Romanov,Evgeny 2603 - Drenchev,Petar 2491, Skopje 2013 - 117/17

8...c5 9.c3



9...O-ON We are already in uncharted territory.

9...♘xg3; 9...♘c6; 9...♕b6

10.dxc5! A very subtle move. White releases the tension so as to avoid any worries with ...cd4 and prepares to finish development and castle on the queenside.

10...♘xg3

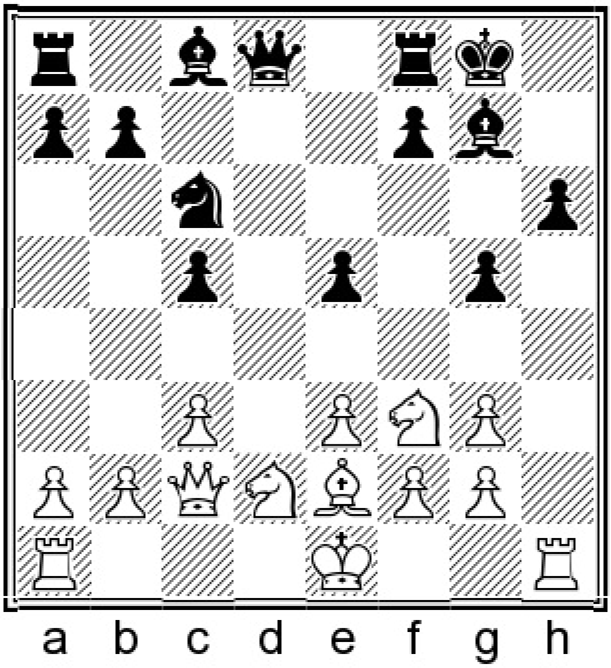
10...dxc5 11.♕c2 is more or less the same.

11.hxg3 dxc5 12.♕c2 e5? I was very surprised by this move, since it burns all bridges behind. But, this is Shirov, and I suppose he was already looking for a way to sacrifice his pieces. I think his idea was to play f5 very quickly, but it does not work. There were other ways to defend against the Ng5 threat.

12...♕d5!?; 12...♖e8

13.♘bd2 ♘c6

13...f5 this is just bad, for instance: 14.O-O-O ♕e7 15.e4 f4 16.gxf4 exf4 17.e5+-



14.♘e4! There are other tempting moves, but Villagra chose a brilliant solution!

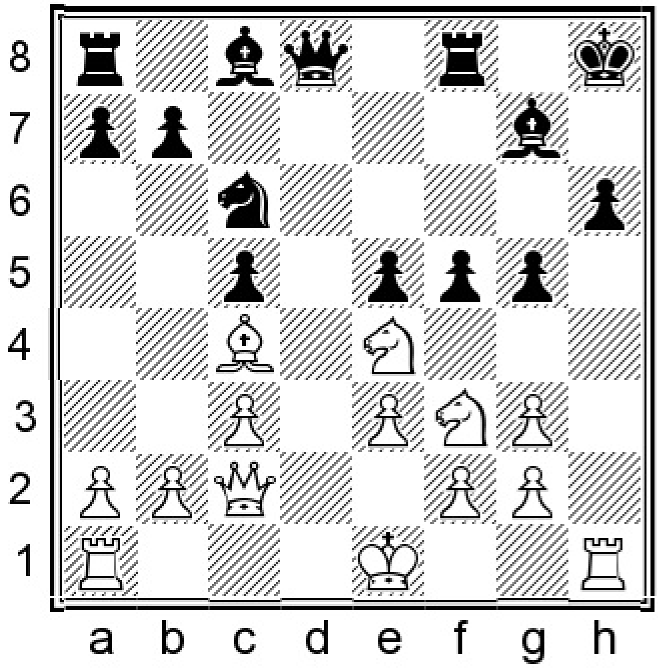
14.♗c4 and White has a huge advantage.

14...f5 15.♗c4+

15.♕b3+ ♔h8 16.♘exg5 was also possible. 16...e4 17.♕f7!? (17.♘f7+ ♖xf7 18.♕xf7 exf3 19.♖d1 ♕f8 20.♕xf8+ ♗xf8 21.gxf3 ♗e6±) 17...♕d6! (17...exf3? 18.♖xh6+ ♗xh6 19.♕h7#) 18.♘d2 b5! 19.♕h5± and my computer is quite happy with White.

15.♘exg5 e4 16.♕b3+±

15...♔h8



16.g4!! A fantastic move. Instead of accepting Shirov's sacrifice, Villagra decides to make one himself. It is funny that in the next moves (and throughout the game) the players are offering material and refusing to accept anything.

16.♘xc5?! ♕e7⩱

16...♕e7

16...fxe4 17.♕xe4 ♕f6 18.O-O-O White wants to play Rh5 and it is a nightmare to defend Black's position. 18...♘a5 19.♖h5 ♗xg4! (19...♘xc4? 20.♘xg5) 20.♕xg4 ♘xc4 21.♕xc4±

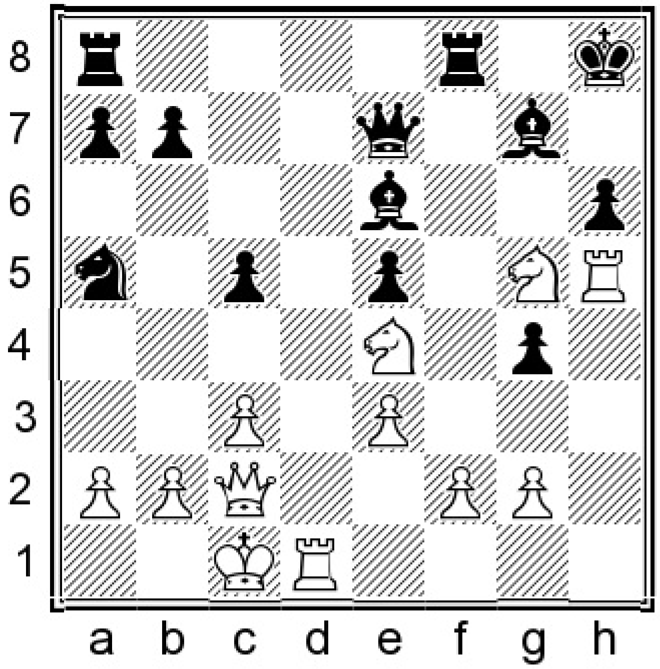
17.O-O-O!?

17.gxf5 ♗xf5 18.O-O-O± was too boring, I guess.

17...fxg4?! 18.♘fxg5+- ♗f5 19.♖h5! ♘a5 20.♗e6! The streak of spectacular moves in unstoppable!

20...♗g6

20...♗xe6 is beautifully refuted.



21.♘f6! ♗xf6 22.♖xh6+ ♔g8 23.♖dh1+- (23.♘xe6+-)

21.♖dh1 It looks like Black is dead lost now, but never write Shirov off - he has amazing resources when pushed to the wall, as he showed by escaping a few bad positions during the Grand Swiss.

21.♖d7 ♕e8 22.♘f7+ (22.♖h1+-) 22...♖xf7 (22...♔g8 23.♘f6++-) 23.♗xf7 ♕xd7 (23...♗xf7 24.♖xf7 ♕xf7 25.♘g5 ♕g8 26.♕g6+-) 24.♗xg6+-

21...g3!? 22.f3 ♖ad8 23.c4

23.♕e2+-;

23.♖5h3+-

23...b5!?

23...♘c6 24.a3+-

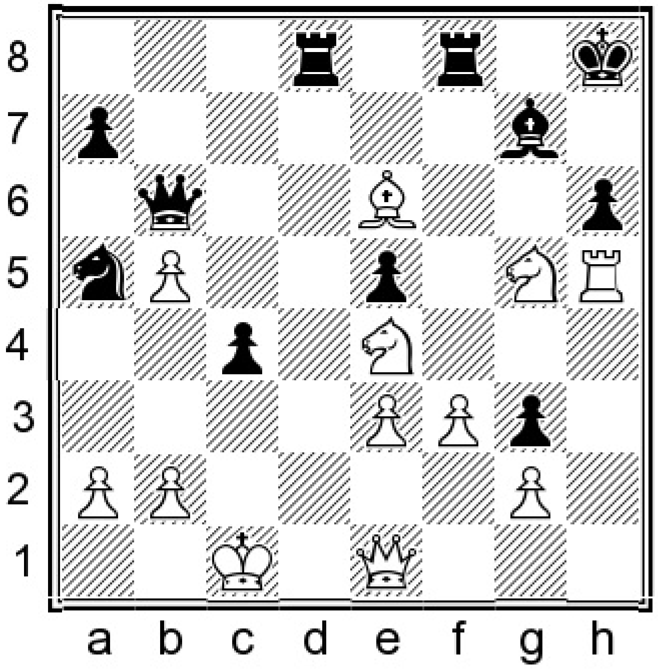
24.cxb5 c4 25.♕c3

25.♖xh6+! ♗xh6 26.♕c3!+- (26.♖xh6+?! ♔g7±)

25...♗xh5 26.♖xh5 ♕c7 27.♕e1!? Preparing Qh1.

27.b4+-

27...♕b6



28.♔c2? The king is not well placed here.

28.♔b1!+- Δ♖de8 29.♖h1

28...♖de8?

28...♕xb5! would force a draw. 29.♕h1 ♖f6! 30.♘xf6 ♖d2+ (30...♕a4+ 31.♔c1 ♘b3+ 32.axb3 ♕a1+ 33.♔c2 ♖d2+ 34.♔xd2 ♕xb2+=) 31.♔xd2 ♕xb2+ 32.♔d1 ♕b1+=

29.♘f7+?

29.♔b1! It was not too late to hide the king.

29...♖xf7 30.♗xf7 ♖f8 31.♗d5 ♕xb5?!

31...♖d8!

32.♘c3 ♕b6 33.♗e4

33.♔c1±

33...♖b8 34.♘d1 ♘c6 35.a3 ♖d8 36.♖h1 ♘a5 37.♕b4 ♘b3 38.♕xb6 axb6 After so many adventures a balanced endgame is reached.

39.♔c3 b5 40.♔b4 ♖b8 41.♗d5 e4!? 42.♗xe4 ♗f8+ 43.♔c3 ♗g7+ 44.♔b4

44.♔c2? ♖d8∓

44...♗f8+ 45.♔c3 ♗g7+ What a game! **1/2-1/2**

This article ends with a very optimistic note about the South American chess. The young generation took a full domination. I think in a few years time we will see several of these players getting close to the 2700 mark. At least that's what I hope!

STATE of PLAY with SABINA

By WGM Sabina-Francesca Foişor

US CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021

Tournament Review

Despite the continuous surge of new COVID-19 variants, the world seems to have found a way to adapt to the "new normality", if we may call it that way. Personally, I have enjoyed my time off from the board, but no online competition, no-matter the prize fund can compare to an over-the-board event. COVID-19 testing and vaccines started to be a requirement for organising over-the-board chess tournaments once again.

Sabina-Francesca Foişor

- **Country:** USA
- **Born:** 1989
- **Rating:** 2208
- **Peak rating:** 2386
- **Title:** Woman Grandmaster since 2007

While in 2020 many countries have chosen to postpone or organise their national championships online, this year things have started to progress in a good direction; at least for the players who were looking forward to be back at the board. This year has allowed many organisers to hold national championships over-the-board with or without the requirement of wearing a mask. Every national championship is a prestigious event and a privilege to play at. So, with or without mask, I am happy to report to you on another great national championship that I participated here in the United States.

Once again, the US Championship and US Women's Championship took place in Saint Louis, the "US chess capital", at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center from October 5th until October 19th. Taking the precautions against COVID-19 can be stressful, but personally I believe that the entire staff at the club have made the experience easy for the players, taking the necessary steps with COVID-19 tests while following the most recent CDC protocols.

Now speaking of the tournament, in the Open section the event featured 12 of the strongest American chess players, with only GM Hikaru Nakamura withdrawing the last minute from the event. With both the US Championship and the Grand Swiss taking place almost back to back, GM Nakamura, made a difficult decision to withdraw from the US Championship. As many may know, he has had an amazing success streaming on Twitch and missing a whole month would probably not have been ideal. Nakamura was replaced by the strong GM Daniel Naroditsky - another top player and famous streamer. The players competed for $194,000 in prize money.

The first part of the event was dominated by GM's Ray Robson and Aleksandr Lenderman, but they were soon joined by super GM Wesley So. In round 8, it was the young GM Sam Sevian, who joined the leaders after taking down former World #2 GM Fabiano Caruana and GM Lazaro Bruzon.

Despite a slow start and two losses in a row, Caruana did not lose hope showing determination and amazing fighting spirit by making his way back and joined the leaders in the penultimate round. Going into the last round many things could happen, yet Wesley So and Sam Sevian drew their games relatively quickly thus allowing Fabiano Caruana some chance to take home the event on his own, had he won in the last round. However, the pressure might have added up for the former World Champion Candidate as his position was complicated enough to convert against GM Sam Shankland. Had he won his last round, GM Lenderman could have joined the 3 leaders and get a spot in the rapid round robin play-off for the title. However, he was not in the position to do so, as he had to defend a pawn down queen endgame position, which ended in a draw with the 50-move rule. The very same chance existed for GM Leinier Dominguez Perez and GM Ray Robson. However, both conceded to a draw finishing behind the three-way tie between Sevian, So, and Caruana.

With the title not decided, an exciting tiebreak began for the spectators. The players GMs Fabiano Caruana, Wesley So and Sam Sevian had an extra night and day of preparation and intense fight. In the end it was GM Wesley So who won against both his rivals and was crowned US Champion once again.

In the final extra fight for the title, GM Wesley So convincingly defeated both Fabiano Caruana and Sam Sevian, defending his title. There were many hard fought games that require attention, so I tried my best to select some of my favourites.

There are many games that caught my attention in the Open section, but I tried to select some based on typical exciting themes.

SAINT LOUIS, X 2021
The US Chess Championships

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

OPEN SECTION

cat. XVIII (2679)

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1	F. CARUANA	g	2800	■	½	0	½	1	1	½	1	1	½	0	½	6½	1–3
2	W. SO	g	2778	½	■	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	½	6½	1–3
3	S. SEVIAN	g	2654	1	½	■	½	½	0	½	½	½	1	½	1	6½	1–3
4	DOMÍNGUEZ PÉREZ	g	2760	½	½	½	■	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	½	6	4–6
5	R. ROBSON	g	2669	0	½	½	½	■	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	6	4–6
6	LENDERMAN	g	2607	0	½	1	½	½	■	½	½	½	½	1	½	6	4–6
7	S. SHANKLAND	g	2714	½	½	½	0	½	½	■	½	1	0	1	½	5½	7
8	D. ŚWIERCZ	g	2647	0	0	½	½	½	½	½	■	0	½	1	1	5	8–9
9	JOHN M. BURKE	g	2554	0	0	½	½	½	½	0	1	■	1	½	½	5	8–9
10	JEF. XIONG	g	2700	½	½	0	½	0	½	1	½	0	■	0	1	4½	10–11
11	D. NARODITSKY	g	2623	1	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	½	1	■	½	4½	10–11
12	BRUZÓN BATISTA	g	2645	½	½	0	½	½	½	½	0	½	0	½	■	4	12

Playoff (rapid)

Time Control: 10 minutes plus 2 seconds per move

				1	2	3	
1	W. SO	g	2766*	■	1	1	2
2	F. CARUANA	g	2775	0	■	1	1
3	S. SEVIAN	g	2597	0	0	■	0

* Rapid rating

WOMEN'S SECTION

cat. III (2311)

1. C. Yip 8½, 2. Tokhirjonova 7, 3. Krush 6½, 4–6. Kat. Némcová, T. Abrahamyan, Ash. Eswaran 6, 7. Cervantes Landeiro 5, 8–9. Paikidze, A. Zatonskih 4½, 10–12. S.-F. Foişor, A. Sharevich, Meg. Lee 4

B03
Robson, Ray (2669) - Naroditsky, Daniel (2623)
USA (ch), 2021

1.e4 ♘f6 The Alekhine Defence is quite uncommon at the top level and I found it to be an interesting choice by Naroditsky, considering that he is known to have an aggressive style.

2.e5 ♘d5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 ♘b6 5.f4 The newest trend that allows White a much more comfortable position with huge space advantage.

5.exd6 remains a good option for White as well, leading to some kind of Sicilian positions. 5...cxd6 6.♘c3 g6 7.♗e3 ♗g7 8.h3 O-O 9.♘f3 ♘c6 10.d5 ♘a5 11.♗d4 ♗xd4 12.♕xd4 e5 13.dxe6 ♗xe6 14.♗e2 (14.♘e4?! ♘c6 15.♘f6+ ♔h8 16.♕f4 ♗f5 17.♘g4 ♖e8+ 18.♗e2 ♗d3 19.♘e3 ♗xe2 20.♔xe2 d5∓ Aronian,Levon 2773 - Carlsen,Magnus 2863, lichess.org (Internet-m/2-rapid) 2020) 14...♘c6 15.♕f4 ♕e7=

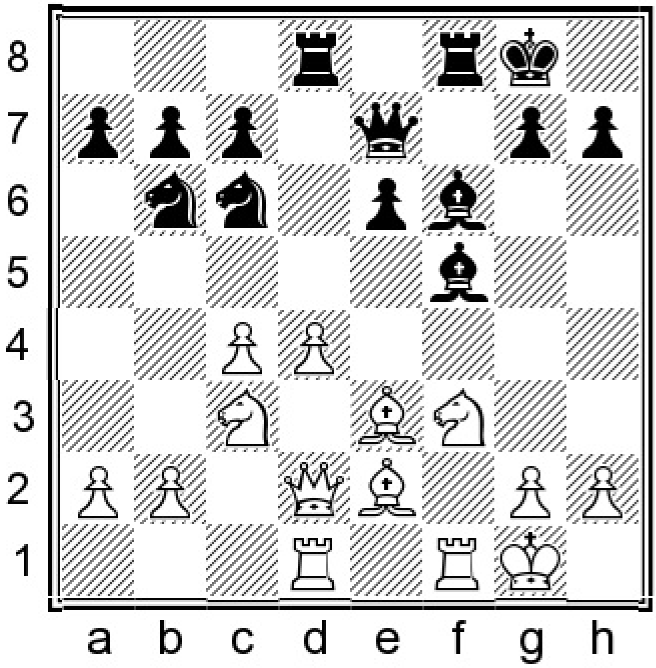
5...dxe5 6.fxe5 ♘c6 7.♗e3 ♗f5 8.♘c3 e6 9.♘f3 ♗e7 Everything went according to plan until this moment, where Robson chose a less dynamic continuation.

10.♗e2

10.d5!? leads to more complex positions. 10...exd5 11.cxd5 ♘b4 12.♘d4 ♗d7 13.♕f3 c5 14.♘f5 ♘c2+ 15.♔d2 ♗xf5 16.♕xf5 ♘xe3 (16...♘xa1? 17.♗b5+ ♔f8 18.♖f1+- f6 19.exf6 ♗xf6 20.♗xc5+ ♔f7 21.♕e6+ ♔g6 22.♗d3+ ♔h6 23.♗e3+ 1 : 0 Morozevich,Alexander 2659 - Manea,Alexandru 2338, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020) 17.♗b5+ ♔f8 18.♔xe3 ♗g5+ 19.♔f2=

10...O-O 11.O-O f6 A typical attempt to solve his space problem.

12.exf6 ♗xf6 13.♕d2 ♕e7 14.♖ad1 ♖ad8 You could say that everything went quite normal until this moment, where both players completed their development and are now trying to focus on attacking ideas. Black keeps the pressure on d4, while White should focus on the isolated e6-pawn. Of course, Black is preparing e5, so finding a solution for the pin on the queen on d2 is necessary.



15.♔h1! A very important and deep move. It has been played before, but the idea behind it is quite interesting.

15.♕c1?! has been tried many times, attempting to stop e5, but after 15...e5 16.d5 (16.dxe5? Gipslis,Aivars - Mikenas,Vladas, Riga 1970 - 11/108) 16...♘d4 is possible and 17.♗xd4 (17.♘xd4 exd4 18.♗xd4 ♗g5 19.♕a1=) 17...exd4 18.♘xd4 ♗g5! forces the queen to the corner, which is not an ideal situation despite the extra pawn. Black has sufficient play here. 19.♕a1 ♗d7! (19...♗e3+ 20.♔h1 ♗xd4 21.♖xd4 ♘a4 22.♘xa4 ♕xe2 23.♘c3 ♕e3 24.♖dd1 ♗d3 25.♖fe1 ♕d4 26.b3 ♖f2 27.♘e4 ♕xa1 28.♖xa1 ♗xe4 29.♖xe4 c6 30.♔g1± Sevian,Samuel 2647 - Boros,Denes 2442, Burlingame 2019) 20.♔h1 ♗f4=∞

15...h6

The same idea does not work anymore: 15...e5? 16.d5 ♘d4 17.♘xd4 exd4 18.♗xd4 ♗g5 19.♕e1+- and now you wonder, why move the queen, if it is in fact not necessary to move it! Now White has the extra pawn and very well placed pieces.

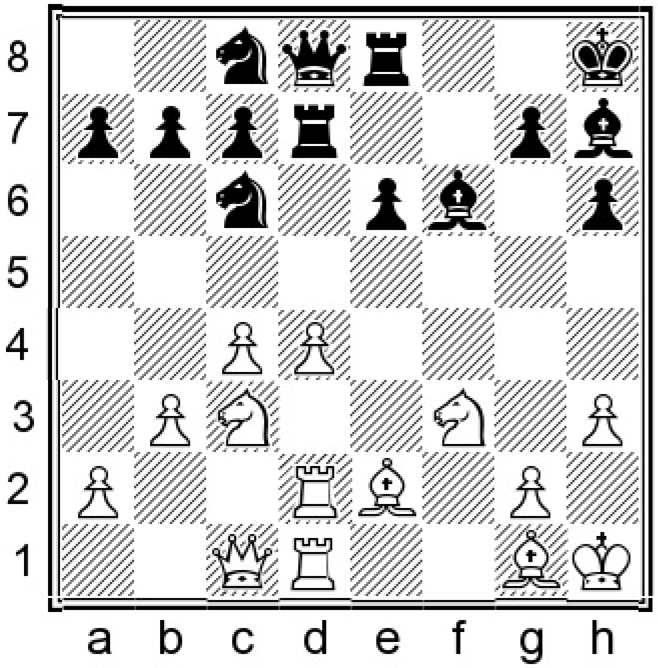
16.h3 ♖d7 - and now **17.♕c1!** The whole plan behind Robson's prophylactic play is that now the idea of e5 and Nd4 does not work and despite not making any clear mistakes, Black's possition is simply worse.

17...♖e8

17...e5? 18.d5 ♘d4 19.♗xd4 exd4 20.♘xd4 ♗g5 21.♕a1+- and now Be3 does not come with tempo anymore. Additionally, Bd7 is not possible either. So Black may have the bishop pair, but White's extra pawn and his domination in the centre should be sufficient to convert.

18.♖d2 From here on White's moves are quite simple. All that needs to be done is regrouping, while Black is struggling without much space.

18...♕d8 19.♖fd1± ♔h8 20.b3 ♗h7 21.♗g1 ♘c8



22.d5! Now that the time is right, White can trade Black's isolated pawn in exchange for the bishop pair.

22...exd5 23.♘xd5 ♗e4 Black chose some complications, but they led to material disadvantage, which Robson had no problem converting to a full point.

23...♗e5 could have been tried, but after 24.♘xe5 ♘xe5 25.♗h5 ♖f8 26.♗d4 ♕g5 27.♖f2+- White dominates the board.

24.♘xf6 ♖xd2 25.♘xd2 ♗xg2+ 26.♔xg2 ♖xe2+ 27.♔f1 ♖xd2 28.♖xd2 ♕xf6+ 29.♖f2 ♕d8 30.♕d2 ♕e8 31.♕f4 ♔g8 32.♕xc7 ♕e6 33.♕g3 ♘d6 34.♕g4 ♕e7 35.♗h2 ♘f7 36.♕c8+ ♔h7 37.♕c7 ♕e4 38.♕xf7 ♕h1+ 39.♔e2 ♕e4+ 40.♔f1 ♕h1+ 41.♔e2 ♕e4+ 42.♔d2 ♘d4 43.♕f4 ♕c2+ 44.♔e3 ♕c3+ 45.♔e4 ♘e6 46.♕f5+ ♔h8 47.♗e5 ♘g5+ 48.♕xg5 1-0

Ray Robson vs Daniel Naroditsky, USA (ch) 2021; Photo by Crystal Fuller

B52
So, Wesley (2778) - Swiercz, Dariusz (2647)
USA (ch), 2021

Wesley So plays impeccable chess these days. Although it may be seemingly harmless at times, his accuracy and technical positional play reach the highest standards. My favourite game of his from the event is a clean strategic game, where he took advantage of his opponent's innacuracies.

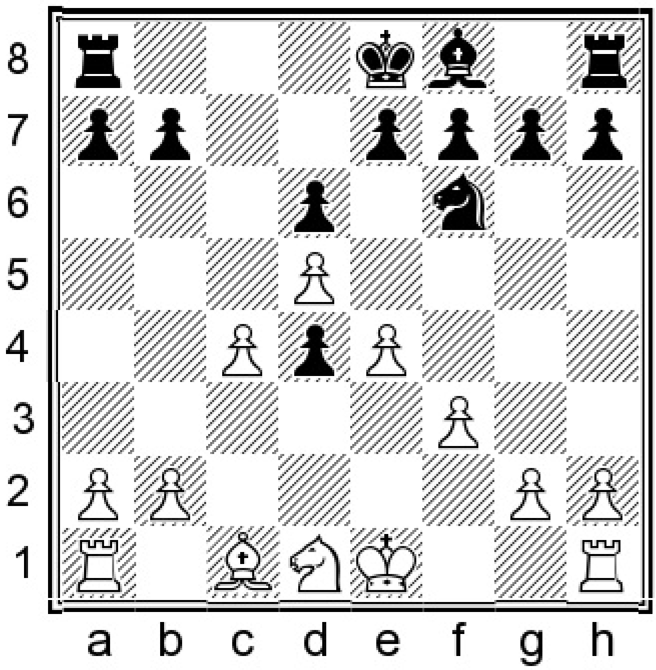
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+!? Possibly a surprise preparation against Swiercz. To my knowledge main lines are to be expected at the top.

3...♗d7 4.♗xd7+ ♕xd7 5.c4 ♘f6 6.♘c3 ♘c6 7.d4 So opted for a solid line. Many games in the database show that Black can secure a draw should he want to. However, Swiercz chose an aggressive idea instead.

7...♕g4 Though engines are okay with this move, Black enters a slightly worse ending, which in my opinion is just what Wesley may have wanted.

7...cxd4 Ni,Hua 2705 - Shengelia,Davit 2569, Espana 2008 - 104/42

8.d5 ♘d4 9.♘xd4 ♕xd1+ 10.♘xd1 cxd4 11.f3



11...♖c8?! Though a natural development move, it seems more helpful for White than for Black.

11...♘d7 is the engine's suggestion. 12.♘f2 e5 is a necessary move to keep the d4-pawn. 13.♗d2 a5! (13...♗e7 was tried as well. 14.♔e2 f6 15.b4 ♔f7 16.a4 ♖hc8 (16...♖ac8!?) 17.♖hc1 a5 18.bxa5 ♗d8 19.♖ab1 ♗xa5 20.♖xb7 ♗xd2 21.♔xd2 ♔e8 (21...♔e7!?) 22.♖a1 ♘c5 23.♖b6 ♘xa4 24.♖xd6 ♘b6 25.♖xa8 ♘xc4+ 26.♔d3 ♘b2+ 27.♔d2 ♘c4+ 28.♔d3 ♘b2+ 29.♔e2 ♖xa8 30.♖c6 ♔d7 31.♘d3 ♘xd3 32.♔xd3 ♖a3+ 1/2 : 1/2 Ni,Shiqun 2207 - Lei,Tingjie 2320, Zhongshan (zt) 2013) 14.♘d3 b6 15.♔e2 ♗e7 16.b3 h6 17.a3 ♗g5= And Black is in time to trade his worst piece.

12.b3 e5 13.g4!? Obviously, White is trying to use a light square strategy to outplay the f8-bishop.

13...♗e7 14.♔e2 h5?! This only gives space to White.

15.g5 ♘d7 16.♗d2 O-O 17.♘f2 a6?! A loss of time. Black had to play f5 immediately to keep a balanced position.

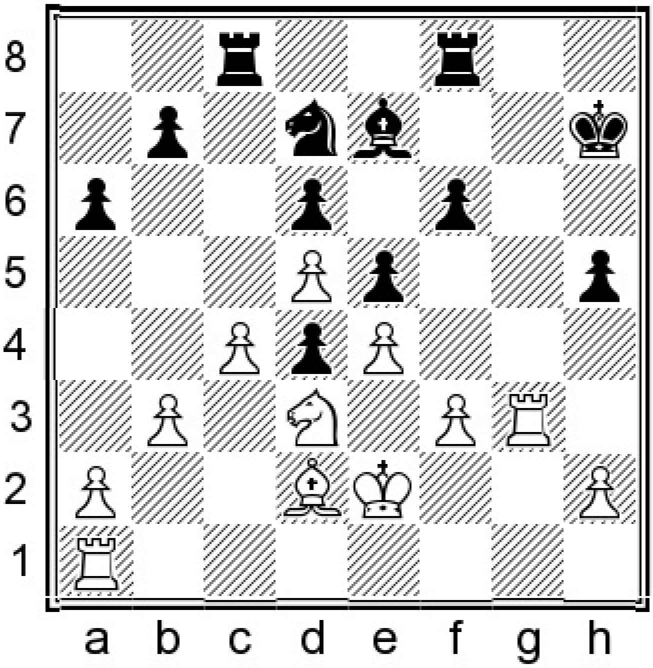
17...f5 18.h4 (18.gxf6 ♗xf6=) 18...b6 19.♘d3 a5 20.a3 ♘c5=

18.♘d3 f5?! Now it is a little too late.

19.gxf6 gxf6

Taking with a piece leaves the g7-weakness, which White will put pressure on as soon as he stops any type of counterplay on the queenside. 19...♘xf6 20.a4± followed by Rhg1

20.♖hg1+ ♔h7 21.♖g3

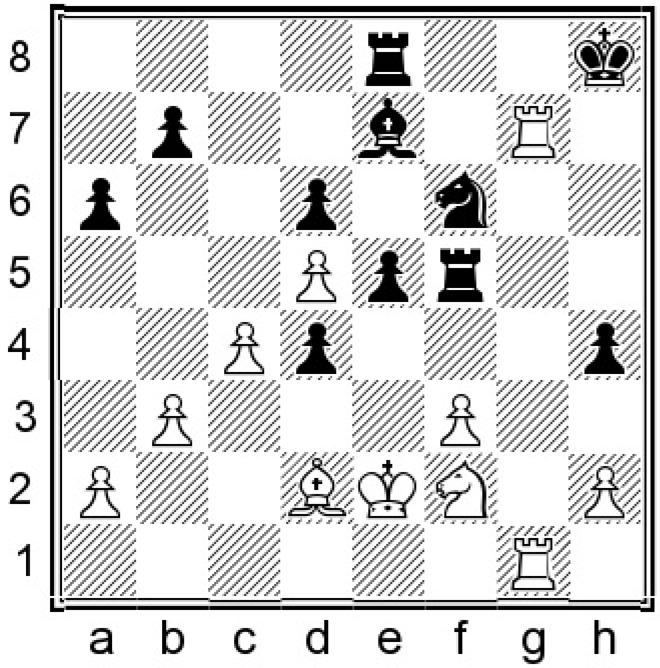


21...h4? This move loses by force.

21...♖g8 would have kept the game going: 22.♖ag1 ♖xg3 23.hxg3 ♖g8 24.♗e1± followed by Rh1

22.♖g4 f5 23.exf5 ♖xf5 24.♖ag1 ♖e8 25.♘f2! The knight rerouts to e4. Someone could think that this is Capablanca's game against some master of his time. Wesley's moves are clear and effortless.

25...♘f6 26.♖g7+ ♔h8



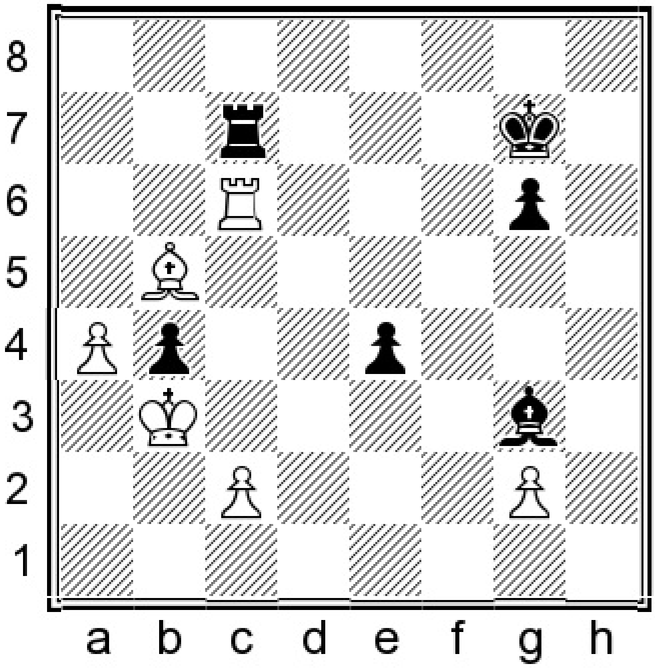
27.♖f7! Very accurate.

27...♖h5 28.♖g6 ♘g8 29.♘e4 ♖d8 30.♗g5 ♖h7 31.♖xe7 ♖xe7 32.♗xh4 1-0

A crushing victory for Wesley So who exploited every mistake by his opponent with a clear strategic plan.

Wesley So vs Dariusz Świercz, USA (ch) 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

Swiercz, Dariusz (2647) - Naroditsky, Daniel (2623)
USA (ch), 2021


8
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The opposite-colour bishops positions are notorious for their tricky nature. One may be tempted to believe that they are always drawish, but really, these days I see more examples where they are either holding by a thread or simply lost. The main reason for choosing this endgame was to remind everyone to always double check, never rely only on theory.

40.♔xb4?! Luckily this move did not cost Swiercz anything as it does not help Black to keep the rooks on the board. Besides his intention of playing Rc7 earlier was to go into the opposite-colour bishops endgame.

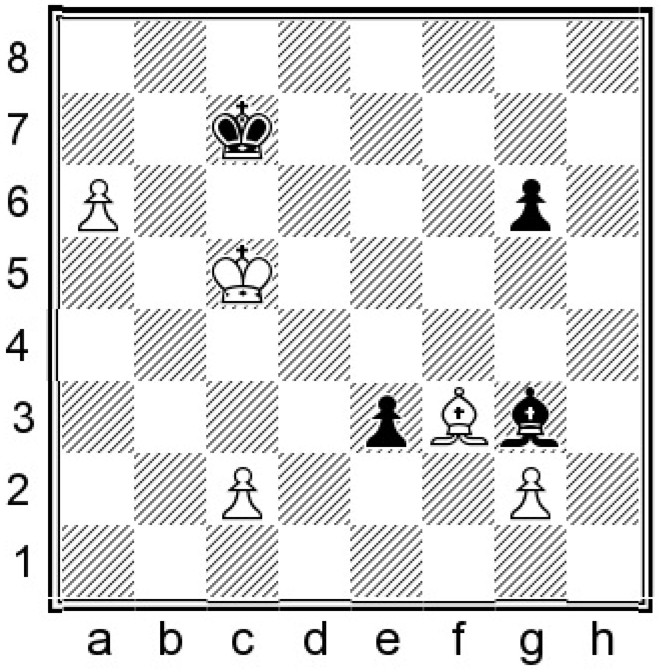
40.♖xc7+! would have won on the spot as follows: 40...♗xc7 41.♔xb4 ♔f6 42.c4 ♔e6 43.♗c6 e3 44.♗f3 ♔d7 45.♔b5 ♗f4 (45...♗e5 46.c5+-) 46.♔b6 ♔c8 47.a5 And Black cannot stop promotion.

40...♖xc6 41.♗xc6 e3 42.♗f3 ♔f6 It is imperative for Black to bring the king to the centre as soon as possible, but it will not be fast enough.

43.a5 ♔e7 44.♔c5 ♔d7 45.a6

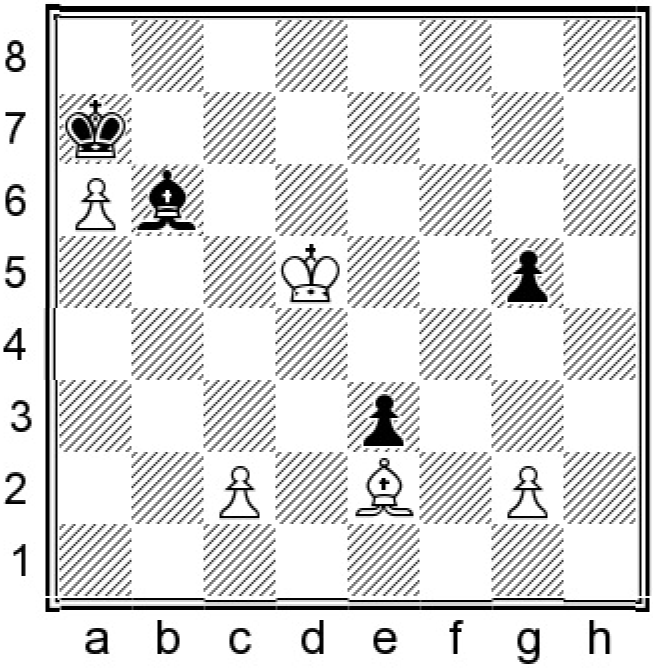
45.♔b6 would have allowed 45...♗c7+ and White had to return 46.♔b5

45...♔c7



46.♔d5 Thanks to the g-pawn, White manages to win this endgame.

46...♔b6 47.♗e2 ♗h4 48.♔e6 ♗d8 49.♔f7 g5 50.♔g6 ♔a7 51.♔f5 ♗e7 52.♔e4 ♗c5 53.♔d5 ♗b6



54.c4! A nice cheap idea. Given the necessary defence of the g- and e-pawns, Black didn't have the chance to bring the king back to the c-file to restrict White's king, and now it is game over.

54...♔b8 55.c5 ♗a7

55...♗c7 56.c6 ♗f4 57.♔e6 ♗g3 58.♔d7+- Black is stuck with the king on b8.

56.♔d6 ♔c8 57.♗g4+ ♔d8 58.c6 ♗b8+ 59.c7+ 1-0

GM DARIUSZ SWIERCZ
GM DANIEL NARODITSKY

Dariusz Świercz vs Daniel Naroditsky, USA (ch) 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

The young GM Sam Sevian has impressed with his play in this Championship and I couldn't have gone without chosing one of his brilliant wins. Of course, his game against Fabiano Caruana was very nice, but the following game was a fast positional one, worth seeing.

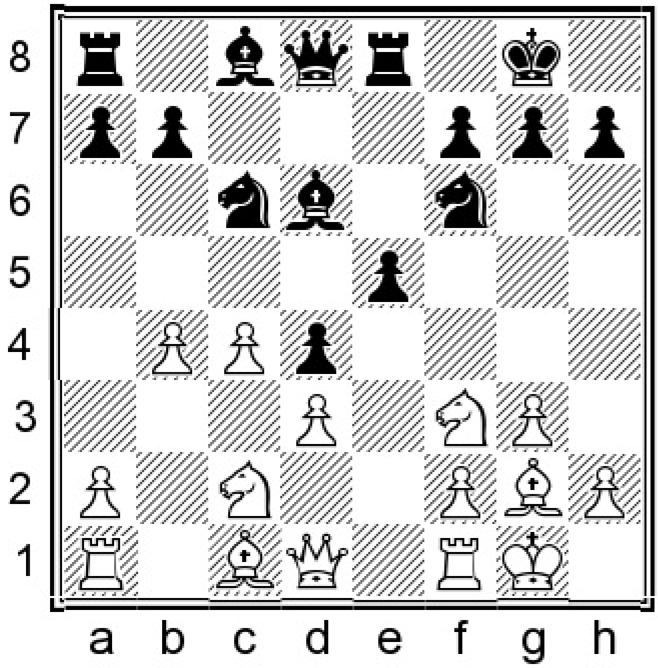
A13
Bruzon Batista, Lazaro (2645) - Sevian, Samuel (2654)
USA (ch), 2021

1.♘f3 d5 2.g3 ♘f6 3.♗g2 c5 4.c4 d4 Sevian chose an ambitious line against the ultra-solid Lazaro Bruzon.

5.e3 ♘c6 6.exd4 cxd4 7.O-O e6 8.d3 ♗d6 9.♘a3

9.♗g5 Delchev,Aleksander 2564 - Spyropoulos,Nikolaos 2409, Anogia 2019 - 142/5

9...O-O 10.♘c2 e5 11.b4 ♖e8 So far it is all well-known theory.



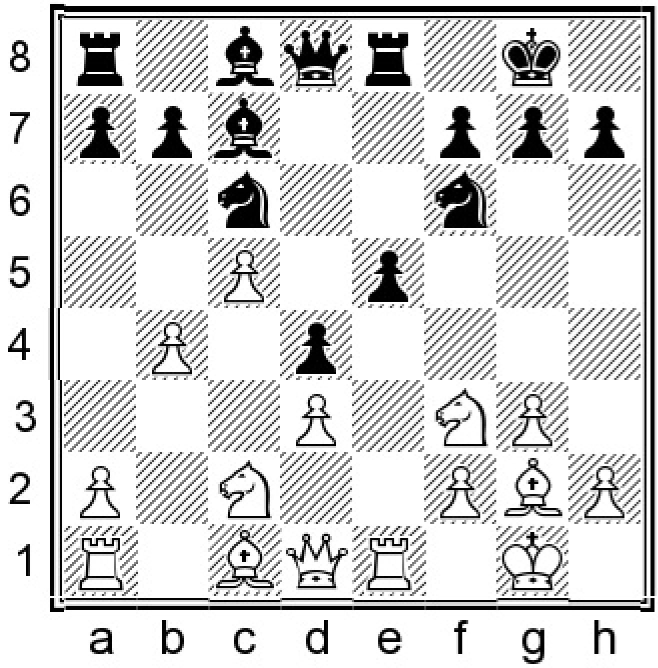
12.c5?! A rare, and also not very good choice by White.

12.♖e1 ♗g4 13.c5 ♗f8 (13...♗c7?! 14.h3 ♗h5 15.b5↑) 14.h3 (14.♗b2 ♕d7 15.♕d2 h6 16.a4 a6 17.♖ac1 ♖ac8 18.♖b1!? (18.♗a3?! e4 19.dxe4 ♗xf3 20.♗xf3 d3 21.♘a1 ♘e5∓ Chilson,Steven - Haug,Geoffrey, corr 2019)) 14...♗xf3 15.♕xf3 e4 16.dxe4 a5=∞

12...♗c7? Black returns the favour.

12...♗f8! 13.♗g5 h6 14.♗xf6 ♕xf6 15.♘d2 ♗f5 16.♘e4 ♕g6 17.♖e1 a5 18.b5 ♘d8∓ White's pawns are vulnearable.

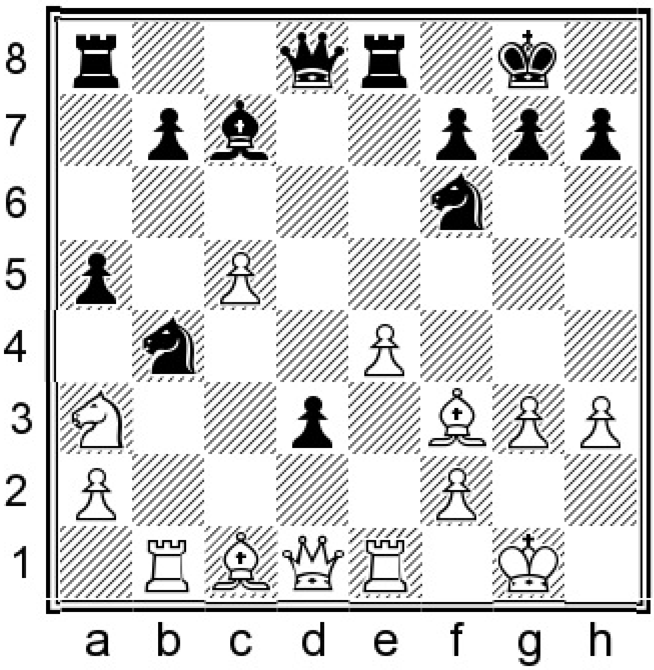
13.♖e1?!



13.♗g5 ♗g4 (13...h6 14.♗xf6 ♕xf6 15.♘d2 ♕g6 16.b5 ♘e7 17.♘c4 ♗e6 18.♖e1 ♗xc4 19.dxc4 ♗a5 20.♖e4 ♖ac8 21.♘e1 ♕e6 22.♘d3 f6 (22...♗c3?! 23.♖xe5 ♕xc4 24.♖b1 ♘g6 25.♖h5 ♖cd8 26.♗xb7 ♖e7 (26...♕xa2!?) 27.♗g2 ♕xa2 28.b6 axb6 29.cxb6 ♖e2 30.♗f1 ♖d2 31.♕b3 ♕xb3 32.♖xb3 ♘e7 33.♖c5 ♖b8 34.b7 f6 35.♖c7 ♔f7 36.♘c5 ♗a5 37.♖xe7+ ♔xe7 38.♘a6 ♖d8 39.b8=Q ♖xb8 40.♖xb8 1 : 0 Mikhalevski,Victor 2565 - Schiendorfer,Emanuel 2310, Porto Carras 2018) 23.♕a4 ♗c3 24.♖f1±) 14.h3 ♗e6 15.♖e1 h6 16.♗xf6 ♕xf6 17.♘d2±

13...e4!? A typical temporary pawn sacrifice destroying White's piece placement.

14.dxe4 d3 15.♘a3 ♗g4 16.h3 ♗xf3 17.♗xf3 ♘xb4 18.♖b1 a5



19.♔g2?? An unbelievable blunder, leaving White without counter-play in a dead lost position.

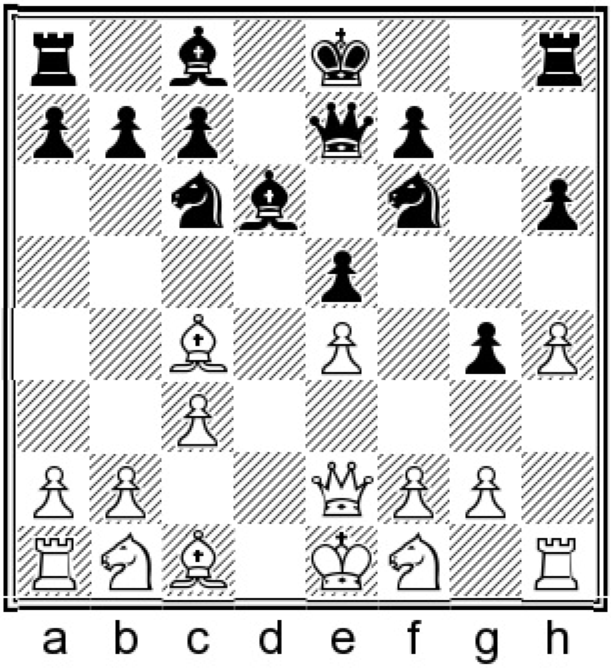
19.♖e3 had to be played. 19...♕d7 20.♘c4 ♖ad8 21.♖b3 ♕d4 22.♘d6 ♗xd6 23.cxd6 ♕xd6 24.♗d2= The game should fizzle out to a draw after White collects the d3-pawn.

19...♘d7! With the idea of Ne5, where the knight becomes a monster and White's king defence colapses.

20.♗e3 ♘e5 21.♖b3 ♘xa2 22.♔h2 a4 White's position is deemed to immediate material loss so the resignation is not premature. **0-1**

Daniel Naroditsky is a prolific streamer and a famous figure in American chess. He also has a very dynamic style with focus on counter-play especially from the black side. In his game against Wesley So, he turned out to be the only player who gave Wesley a very hard time. Unfortunately for him, he failed to keep the momentum and allowed Wesley to turn the tables.

So, Wesley (2778) - Naroditsky, Daniel (2623)
USA (ch), 2021

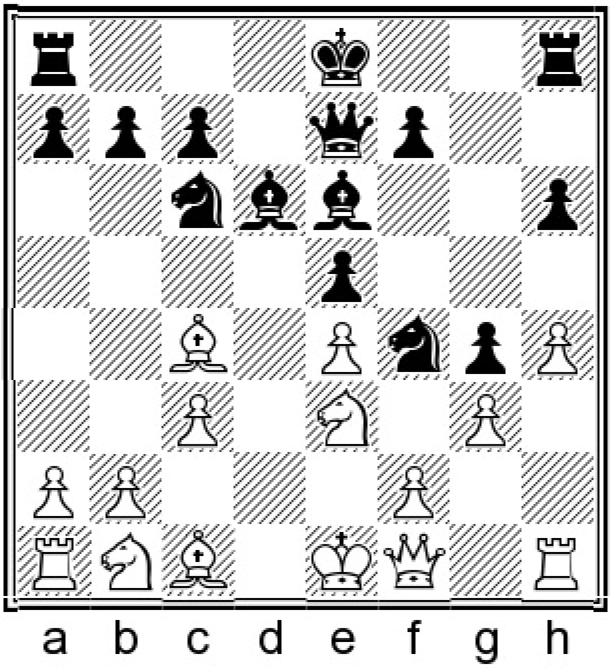


11...♘h5! 12.♘e3 ♘f4 13.♕f1?!

13.♘d5 ♘xe2 14.♘xe7 ♔xe7 15.♗xe2 ♗e6 White lost his opening advantage, but the endgame is quite balanced, in my opinion.

13...♗e6 14.g3? A mistake that could have cost Wesley the game.

14.♘d5 ♗xd5 15.exd5 ♘a5 16.♗b5+ c6 17.dxc6 bxc6 18.♗a6∞



14...O-O-O! A beautiful move, worthy of a diagram. Black is way ahead in development so leaving the knight hanging and bringing new pieces into play is the right thing to do for him to maintain his advantage.

15.♘d5 ♗xd5? Maybe a natural way to try to open up the centre and take advantage of White's king not being castled.

But 15...♕e8! is the move the engines show to lead to a winning position! 16.♘f6 ♕f8 17.gxf4 ♗xc4 18.♕xc4 exf4 19.♘d5 ♘e5 20.♕a4 ♘d3+ 21.♔e2 ♘xc1+ 22.♖xc1 c6-+ It is not too hard to realise that White's lag in development has its obvious consequences now.

16.exd5 ♘a5 17.gxf4 exf4+ 18.♔d1 ♘xc4

18...♕e5 19.♔c2 ♖he8 20.♘d2 ♘xc4 21.♕xc4 ♗f8=∞

19.♕xc4 g3

19...♖he8 20.♗d2 ♕e5 21.♕d3 f3 22.♔c2 ♗c5 23.c4 ♗xf2 24.♘c3 h5=∞

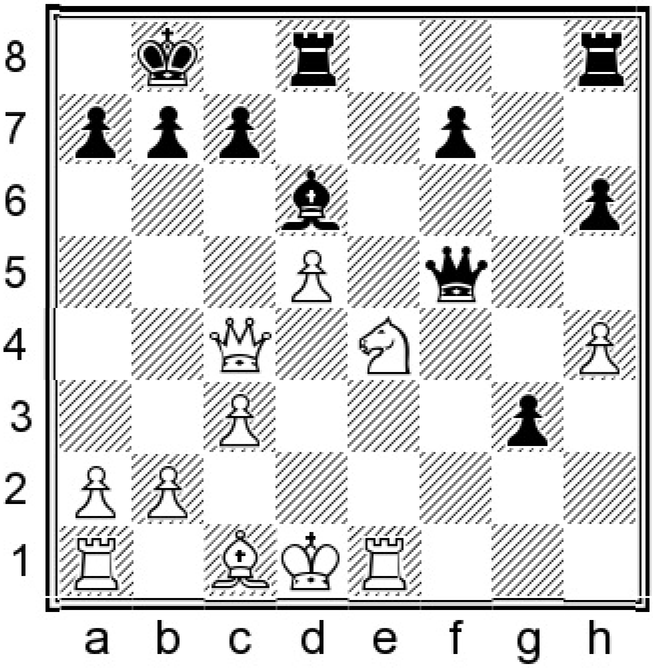
20.fxg3 fxg3 21.♖e1 Despite the extra piece, White's king is not safe, but Black needs to find only moves to keep the balance.

21...♕f6? This could have completely turned the tables in White's favour.

21...♕d7 22.♔c2 ♖he8 23.♗e3 ♖e5 24.♘d2 ♖de8 25.♕d4∞

22.♘d2 ♔b8?! Another slow move, that allows White to regroup and gain momentum.

23.♘e4! ♕f5



24.♗e3?

24.♘xd6 Probably due to the difficulty of the position a few moves back Wesley decided to focus on regrouping and forget about this more forcing approach. 24...♖xd6 25.♕e4 ♖xd5+ (25...♕f2 26.♕d4 ♕f3+ 27.♔c2 ♖g8 28.♗f4+-) 26.♔c2 g2 27.♕xf5 ♖xf5 28.♗e3± White's extra piece should suffice to win in this case.

24...♖he8 Now White does not have more than perpetual check.

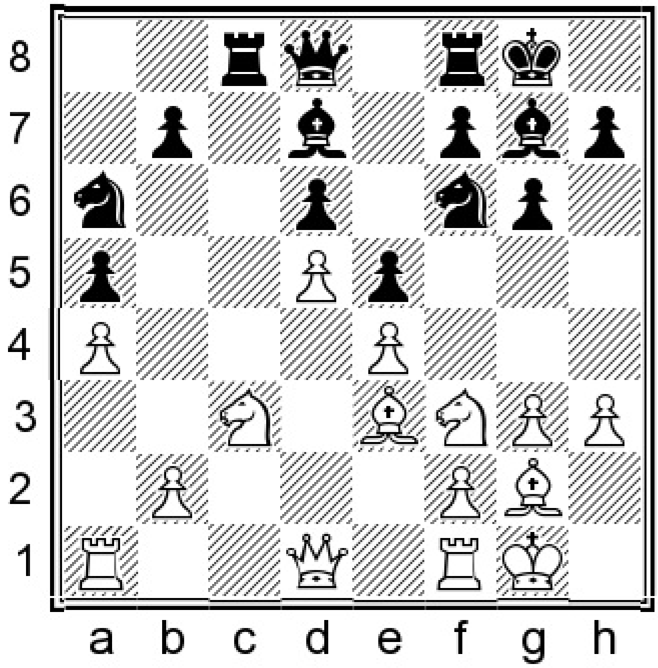
25.♘xd6

25.♗g1 ♖e5 26.♘xd6 ♖xd5+ 27.♔c1 ♖8xd6 28.a4 Engines show some advantage for White, but in practice it is as dangerous for White as it is for Black.

25...♖xd6 26.♗xa7+ ♔xa7 27.♕a4+ ♔b6 28.♕b4+ ♔a6 29.♕a4+ ♔b6 30.♕b3+ ♔a7 31.♕a4+ ♔b6 1/2-1/2

Caruana had his ups and downs in this event, but the following game brought him back in the lead and gave him the chance to take home the Championship.

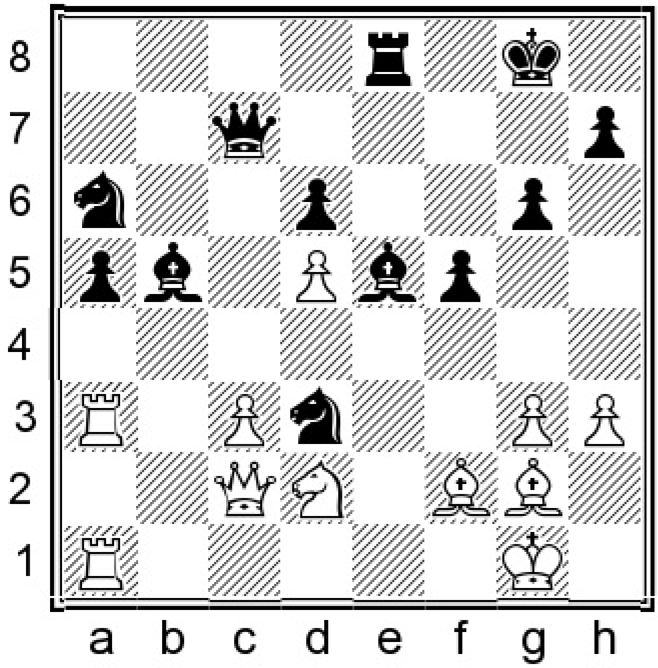
Lenderman, Aleksandr (2607) - Caruana, Fabiano (2800)
USA (ch), 2021



15...♖xc3! We usually see this typical positional exchange sacrifice in the Sicilian but here Caruana essayed it in a complex position arising from the King's Indian.

16.bxc3 ♘xe4 17.♕c2 ♘ec5 18.♘d2 ♕c7 19.♖a3 f5 20.f4 Black does not have advantage necessarily, but he is more comfortable in dictating his plans although he may not have all the means to realise them.

20...♖e8 21.fxe5 ♗xe5 22.♗f2 b5 23.axb5 ♗xb5 24.♖fa1 ♘d3



25.♕b1?! Finally, Lenderman did not manage to maintain the balance and handed over the initiative.

25.♖xa5 ♕xc3 26.♖1a2 ♘ab4 27.♕xc3 ♗xc3 28.♖2a3 ♗xd2 29.♖xb5 ♘xf2 30.♔xf2 ♘c2=

25...♘ab4 26.♖xa5 ♕xc3 Black's initiative is now really annoying. The players initiated a series of mistakes in time pressure but it was Caruana who finally won this crucial game in the penultimate round.

27.♗e3 ♗d4 28.♗xd4 ♕xd4+ 29.♔h2 f4 30.g4 ♖e2 31.♖a8+ ♗e8 32.♕g1 ♕b2 33.♘f3 ♔f8 34.♖1a7 h6 35.♖b7 ♘e5 36.♔h1 ♘xf3 37.♗xf3 ♖e5 38.♖c8 ♕d2 39.♖c1 ♖e3 40.♖f1 ♘d3 41.♕g2 ♕c3 42.♕h2 g5 43.♗g2 ♘e5 44.♖bb1 ♗f7 45.♖bc1 ♕d4 46.♖cd1 ♘d3 47.♖d2 ♔g7 48.h4 ♕c4 49.♖fd1 ♘e5 50.hxg5 hxg5 51.♖d4 ♕c3 52.♕g1 ♘xg4 53.♖1d2 ♕c8 54.♕a1 ♕h8+ 55.♔g1 ♕h2+ 56.♔f1 ♖f3+ 57.♗xf3 ♘e3+ 58.♔e1 ♕g1+ 59.♔e2 ♕xa1 0-1

Aleksandr Lenderman vs Fabiano Caruana, USA (ch) 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

John Burke had a very good tournament and he proved that sometimes rating is just a number. His minus 1 score still sufficed for a 2658 performance, a TPR 100 points above his rating. This was a very nice attacking game, worthy of sharing.

C54
Burke, John M (2554) - Xiong, Jeffery (2700)
USA (ch), 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.O-O ♘f6 5.d3 d6 6.c3 h6 7.♖e1 O-O 8.h3 a5 Xiong chooses the most aggressive line. He has been doing that in this event, though not with much success.

9.d4!? ♗a7 Engines prefer this move over Nakamura's on a very high depth but they all seem to finally regress to 0.00!

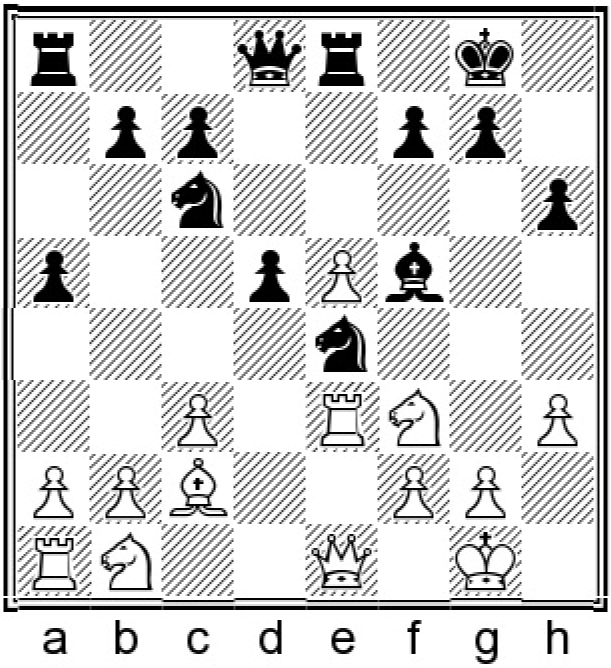
9...♗b6 Carlsen,Magnus 2847 - Nakamura,Hikaru 2736, chess24.com (Internet-m1/2-rapid) 2021 - 148/111

10.♗b3 Again, the engines' favorite.

10...♖e8 11.♗c2 ♗d7

11...d5 totally equalises but Burke probably knew that Xiong wanted to win this game at any cost.

12.dxe5 ♘xe4 13.♗e3 ♗xe3 14.♖xe3 ♗f5 15.♕e1



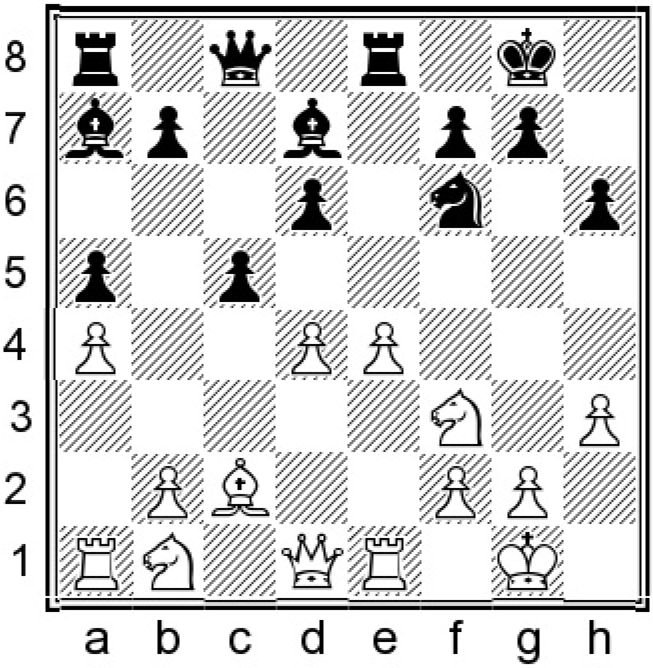
15...♗g6 (15...f6 16.exf6 ♕xf6 17.♗b3 ♕f7 18.♘bd2 a4 19.♗xd5 ♕xd5 20.c4 ♕e6 21.♘xe4 ♗xe4 22.♘d2 ♘d4=; 15...♘d6 16.exd6 ♖xe3 17.♕xe3 ♗xc2 18.dxc7 (18.♘a3 ♗e4 19.dxc7 ♕xc7 20.♘d2 ♗f5=) 18...♕xc7 19.♘bd2 a4 20.♖e1 ♕a5 21.♘d4 ♘xd4 22.♕xd4 a3 23.b4 ♕c7 24.♖e3 ♖c8 25.♖g3 ♗g6 26.h4 h5 27.♕xd5 ♖d8 28.♕g5 ♔h7=) 16.♘a3 ♘g5 17.♘xg5 ♕xg5 18.♗xg6 fxg6 19.♕f1 ♖ad8 20.♘b5 ♕f5 21.f4 g5 22.fxg5 ♕xg5 23.♖ae1 ♖xe5 24.♖xe5 ♘xe5 25.♘xc7 ♕g3 26.♖e2 ♘g4 27.hxg4 ♕xc7=

12.a4 ♕c8N Black is aiming for some potential sacrifices on h3, but as long as White keeps the pawn on d4, those won't work.

12...exd4 was tried before. 13.cxd4 d5 14.e5 ♘e4 15.♘c3 ♗f5 16.♘xe4 ♗xe4 17.♗xe4 dxe4 18.♖xe4 ♕d5 19.♕d3 f5 20.♖e1 ♘xd4 (20...♖ad8!?) 21.♘xd4 ♗xd4 22.♗e3 ♖ad8 23.♗xd4 ♕xd4 24.♕xf5 ♖d5 25.♕c2 ♖exe5 26.♕xc7 ♕xb2 27.♖ab1 ♖xe1+ 28.♖xe1 ♖f5 29.♖e8+ ♔h7 30.♖h8+ ♔xh8 31.♕c8+ ♔h7 32.♕xf5+ ♔h8 33.♕xa5 ♕c1+ 1/2 : 1/2 Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu 2567 - Buckels,Valentin 2442, Mumbai 2019

13.♗e3 exd4 14.♗xd4 ♘xd4 15.cxd4 c5? Though it is typical to breakthrough White's centre, it does not work tactiaclly.

15...c6 seems more reasonable, as Black needs to regroup and make sure to prevent White from the e5-break, which could lead to annoying kingside attacks similar to the game. 16.♕d2 ♕c7 17.♘c3 ♖ad8=



16.e5! ♘d5

16...♘h5 17.♕d3 g6 18.♗b3 ♔g7 19.♘c3 cxd4 20.♘d5!±

17.♕d3 g6 18.♗b3 ♘f4 19.♕e4 ♘e6 20.♕h4 c4 21.♘c3 dxe5 22.♕xh6 ♗c6 23.d5 cxb3 24.♘e4 ♕d8 25.dxe6 1-0

US Women's Championship

The 2021 U.S. Women's Championship took place parallel to the Open event. Since my rating has decreased a lot in the past few years, having focused mostly on teaching, so I did not expect to take part in the US Champs this year. However, luck was on my side, with some strong and talented young female players declining their invitation, I found myself on the list. Therefore, receiving an invitation to one of the most prestigious events of the year, has certainly been taken with great joy. But, as you know the saying "with great joy comes great responsibility", and I feel like this year I wasn't quite able to put myself together in the second part of the event.

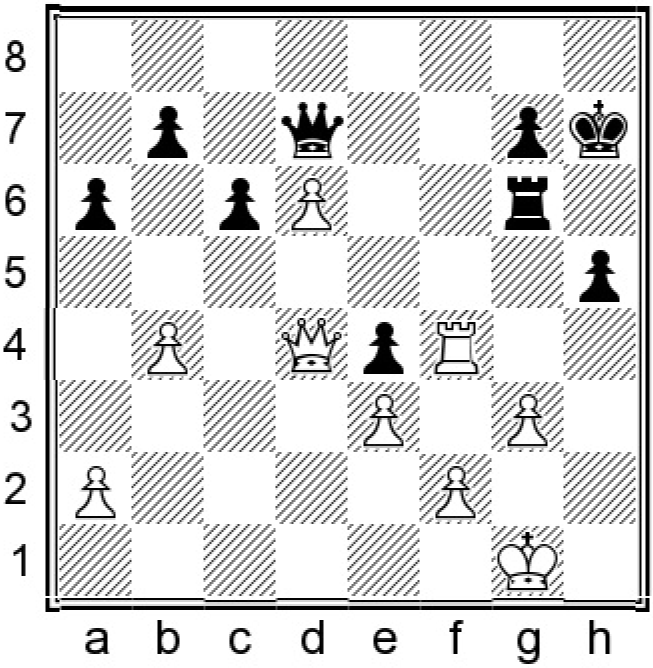
However, I am happy to share what was one of the most exiting national championships to date, with many ups and downs, changes in the standings and astonishing performances, especially by the young newly crowned US Women's Champion - Carissa Yip, who won the event with a round to spare and wins games against four former US Women's Champions. Her growth has been wonderful in the last couple of years and it is no wonder that we saw her on top the entire competition. Her fighting spirit and work ethic will surely continue to show in the future and I am sure we'll continue seeing her name on the top for many years to come.

A newcomer to the US Championship WGM Gulrukhbegim Tokhirjonova has taken second place, while 8-time US champion Irina Krush finished 3rd. While I am happy with my play, there were certainly many fails on my end, but I thought I would also share two of my interesting moments, a happy one and a sad one!

I thought I would start with two examples from my games. This first one is quite nice as I missed a brilliant opportunity to show how a rook dominates two queens (not one but two!).

We were both getting quite low on time and my opponent instead of going for a more natural approach to maintain her advantage, tried a tactical idea. Of course, at home with the engine, I found out how I could have reached a study-like position in which Black could save the game.

Cervantes Landeiro, Thalia (2175) - Foisor, Sabina Francesca (2205)
USA (ch), 2021

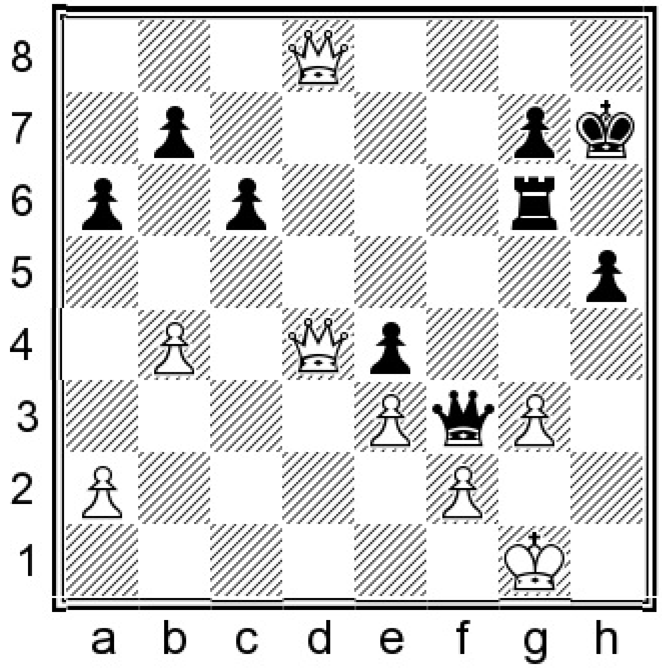


39.♖f7??⊕ This move was played instead in the game, with the attempt to deflect Black's queen in order to promote the d-pawn.

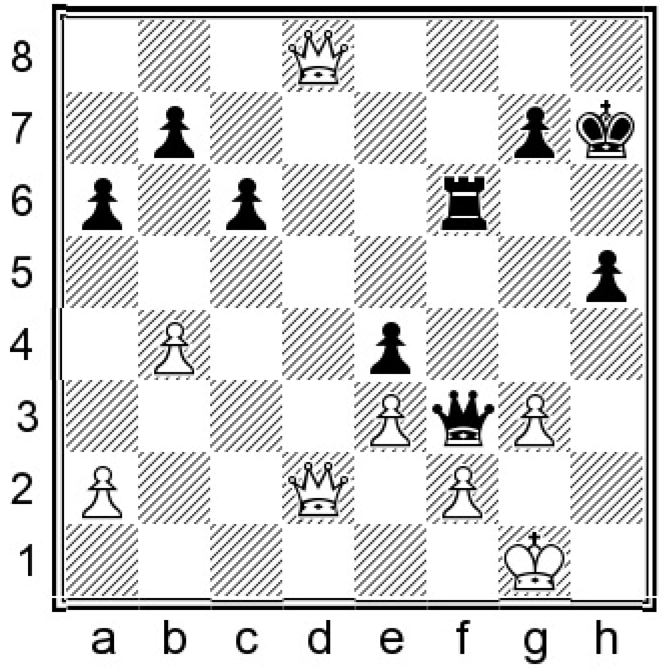
39.♕xe4 ♕xd6 40.♖f7± should allow White to continue pressing and most likely leads to a win.

39...♕xd6??⊕ In time pressure one does not have enough time to calculate the consequences of capturing on f7.

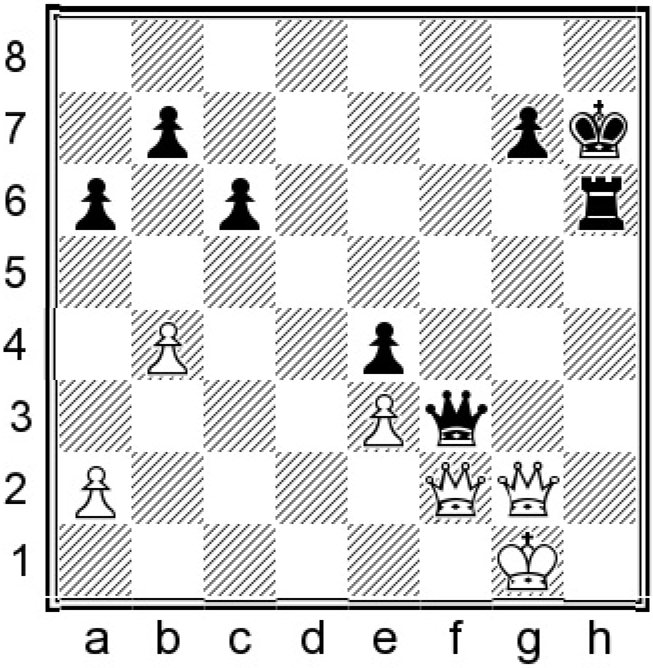
39...♕xf7! 40.d7 ♕f3 (40...h4 was my first attempt to save the game, but it fails to 41.d8=Q hxg3 42.♕h4+ ♖h6 (42...♔g8 43.♕dd8++-) 43.♕xg3+-) 41.d8=Q



and now 41...♖f6!! (41...♖xg3+?? fails to give perpetual after 42.fxg3 ♕xg3+ 43.♔f1 ♕f3+ 44.♔e1+-) 42.♕d2



(42.♕8xf6 gxf6 43.♕d7+ ♔h6 44.♕xb7 h4=) 42...♖f5!! Surprisingly White has no way to make use of her two queens and Rd5 next move ensures Black winning one of the two queens. A very hard to see tactic! (42...h4! seems to work as well. 43.♕8d7 (43.♕c7?? h3-+) 43...hxg3 44.♕h3+ ♖h6 45.♕g2 gxf2+ 46.♕dxf2

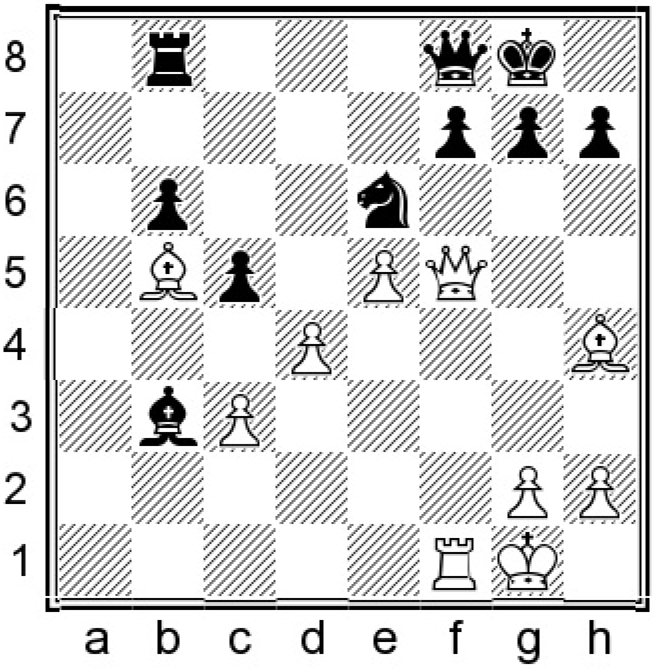


46...♕xg2+!! Hard move to see! 47.♔xg2 ♖g6+ 48.♔h2 (48.♔f1?? ♖f6-+) 48...♖h6+ 49.♔g3 ♖g6+ 50.♔h4 ♖h6+ 51.♔g4 ♖g6+= White's king cannot avoid the perpetual or else she loses her queen.) 43.♕e1 (43.♕b2 ♖d5 White has to give up one of the queens or else she would suffer a back-rank mate. 44.♕xd5 cxd5 45.♕e5 ♕d1+=) 43...♖d5 44.♕e7 ♖d1 45.♕xe4+ ♕xe4 46.♕xd1 ♕xb4 47.♕xh5+ ♔g8=

40.♖xg7++- Unfortunately, after this it is game over for me, and my opponent converted without much trouble.

Thalia Cervantes Landeiro vs Sabina-Francesca Foisor, USA (ch) 2021; Photo by Crystal Fuller

Foisor, Sabina Francesca (2205) - Abrahamyan, Tatev (2344)
USA (ch), 2021



My tournament didn't go as planned, but I was pretty proud of this game, especially of my next move.

28.♕b1!! A beautiful retreat. The second exclamation mark is purely for the aesthetic nature of the move.

28.♗f2 a natural move would allow Black to get a much needed play as follows: 28...cxd4 29.cxd4 ♖d8=

28...c4

28...♗d5 allows 29.c4 ♗b7 30.d5 ♘d4 31.e6+- and Black's position is just hopeless.

29.♗d7

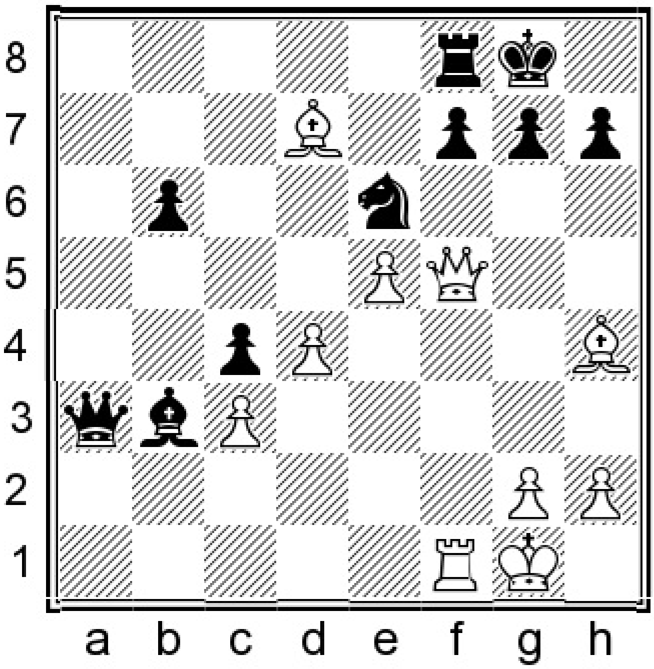
29.♕f5 would have been another nice alternative.

29...♕a3

29...♘c7 30.e6 f6 31.♗g3+- followed by Qe4 and e7

30.♕f5 ♖f8

30...♕f8 31.♗xe6 fxe6 32.♕xe6++-



31.♗xe6?! I am not proud of this decision. White has a huge advantage here and had I made a simple prophylactic move, such as Kh1 to avoid Qc5, so that I could play d5, the game could have ended faster. Instead, I went for the opposite-colour bishops endgame, which was winning only by a thread.

31.d5? ♕c5+ 32.♔h1 ♕xd5=;

31.♗c6 would have worked as well.

31.♔h1**!** ♘c7 32.♗c6+- followed by d5

31...fxe6 32.♕xe6+ ♔h8 33.♖xf8+⊕ Time pressure and security seemed to have been my main priorities here.

33.♗f2 followed by d5 gives White less worry about the drawing ideas in the opposite-colour bishops endgame.

33...♕xf8 34.♕xb6

34.d5!? allows for a nice line, though it was scary to drop my bishop at the time. 34...h6 35.d6 ♕f4 36.h3!? ♕xh4 37.♕c8+ ♔h7 38.♕f5+ ♔h8 39.d7 ♕e7 40.e6+-

34...h6 35.♕d8?! The position remains winning but this only prolongs the game and it was absolutely unnecessary.

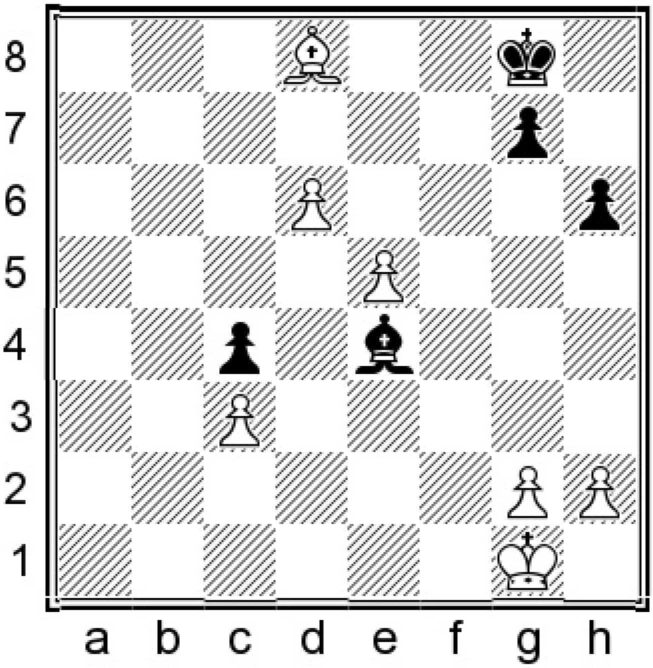
35.h3 ♕f4 36.♗f2 ♕c1+ 37.♔h2 ♕xc3 38.e6+-

35...♕xd8 36.♗xd8 ♗c2

36...♔g8 37.♔f2 ♔f7 38.d5 ♗c2 39.♔e3+- followed by Kd4

37.d5 ♗e4 38.d6 ♗f5

38...♔g8 I remember panicking during the game thinking that Black has a drawing idea of bringing her king to e6 and then placing the bishop on the a4-e8 diagonal. Thankfully, I later realised that White was still winning.



39.e6!! (39.♗e7?? ♔f7=; 39.♗h4?? ♗f5 40.♔f2 ♔f7 41.♔e3 ♔e6 42.♔d4 ♗d3 43.♔c5 ♗e2 44.♔c6 ♗d1=) 39...♗d5 (39...♗f5 40.e7 ♔f7 41.♔f2 ♔e8 42.♔e3 ♔d7 43.♔f4 ♗c2 44.♔e5 ♗d1 45.♗b6 ♗c2 46.♗d4 ♗d3 47.e8=Q+ ♔xe8 48.♔e6+-) 40.e7 ♗c6 (40...♔f7?? 41.d7+-) 41.♔f2 ♔f7 42.♔e3 ♔e6 43.♔d4 ♔xd6 44.♔xc4+-

39.♔f2 ♔g8 40.♔e3 ♔f7 41.♔d4 ♔e8 42.♗e7 ♗e6 43.♔c5 ♔f7

43...♔d7 44.♗f8+-

44.♔c6 ♔e8 45.♔c7 g6 46.♗f8 h5 47.♗e7 ♗f5 48.♗g5 ♗d7 49.g3 ♗f5 50.♔c6 ♗e6 51.♗h4 And Black resigns because she is in Zugzwang. **1-0**

C02
Yip, Carissa (2402) - Zatonskih, Anna (2422)
USA (ch), 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 ♕b6 5.♘f3 ♗d7 6.♗d3 cxd4 7.O-O Carissa is a very sharp player. The newly crowned US Women's Champion is known for her tactical prowess, and in this game she chose a very sharp line on the white side of the Advanced French.

7...dxc3

7...♗b5 Miladinovic,Igor 2604 - Doncea, Vladimir 2444, Cannes 2008 - 102/198

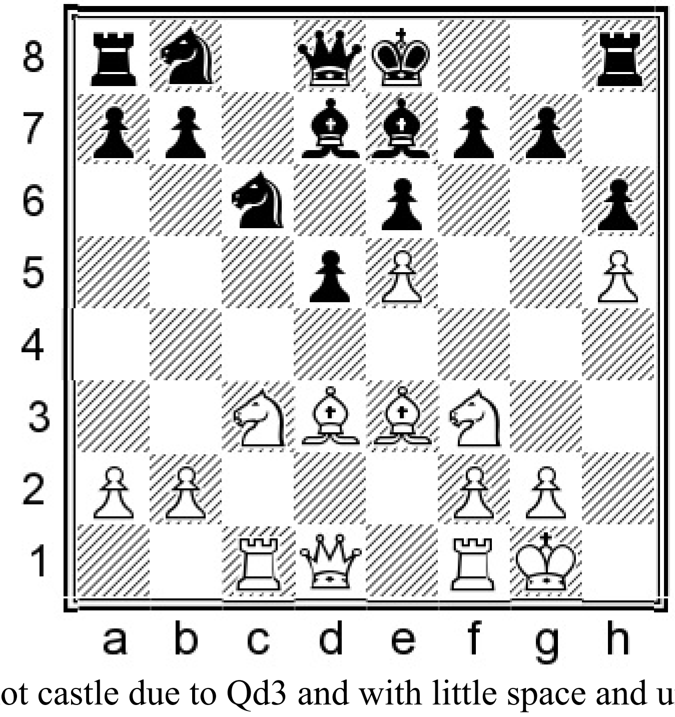
8.♘xc3 ♘e7

8...♘c6 9.♖e1 ♘ge7 10.h4! a6 11.h5 h6 (11...♘d4!?) 12.a3 ♘a5 13.b4 ♘c4 14.♗xc4 dxc4 15.♗e3!? (15.♘d2 ♖c8 16.♘de4 ♘d5 17.♘xd5 exd5 18.♕xd5 ♗e6 19.♕d1 ♖d8 20.♕f3 ♖d3 21.♗e3 ♕c6 22.♕f4 ♗e7 23.♖ac1 b5 24.♗c5 ♗xc5 25.♘xc5 ♖d5 26.♖c3 O-O 27.♖g3 ♔h8 28.♖ee3 ♖xc5 (28...a5? 29.♖xg7 ♔xg7 30.♖g3+ ♔h7 31.♘e4 f5 32.♘f6+ ♖xf6 33.exf6 ♖d7 34.♖g6 1 : 0 Grandelius,Nils 2663 - Shetty,Atulya 2437, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020) 29.♖g6 ♔g8∞) 15...♕c7 16.♗c5⯹

9.h4 h6 10.h5 ♕d8? This is a loss of a full tempo.

10...♘bc6

11.♗e3 ♘ec6 12.♖c1 ♗e7



13.♗b1! Now Black cannot castle due to Qd3 and with little space and undevelopped pieces it is difficult for Black to find a decent plan.

13...♘a5 14.♕d4?!

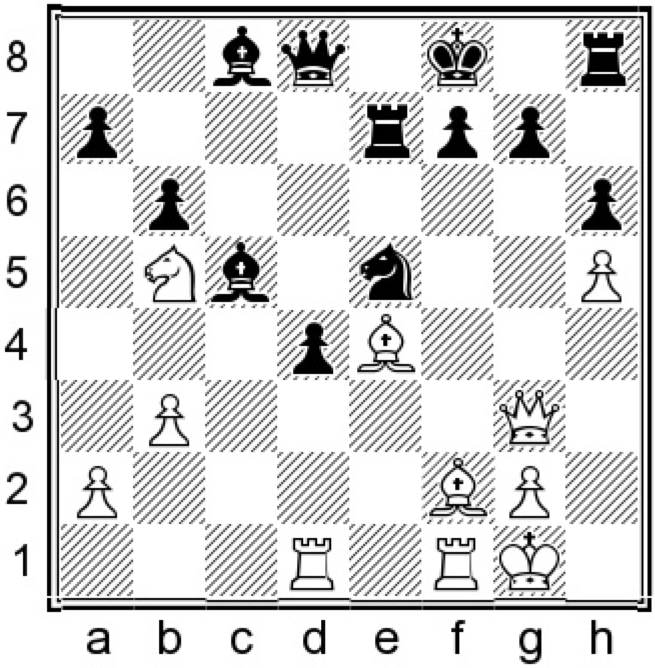
14.b3 ♗a3 15.♖c2 ♘a6 16.♘d4 ♘b4 17.♖d2 a6 18.♕g4→

14...♘bc6? Surprisingly, this natural move is simply losing.

14...♘c4!? 15.♕g4 ♘xe3 16.♕xg7 (16.fxe3? ♕b6 17.♕xg7 ♕xe3+ 18.♔h1 ♖f8∓) 16...♘xf1 17.♕xh8+ ♗f8 18.♖xf1±

15.♕g4 ♔f8 16.b3 ♖c8 17.♘e2 b6 18.♖cd1 ♖c7 19.♕g3 ♗c8 20.♘fd4 ♘xd4 21.♘xd4 ♘c6 22.♘b5 ♖d7 23.f4 Black is playing a rook down, as the h8-rook has just a symbolic presence.

23...d4 24.♗f2 ♗c5 25.f5 exf5 26.♗xf5 ♖e7 27.♗e4 ♘xe5

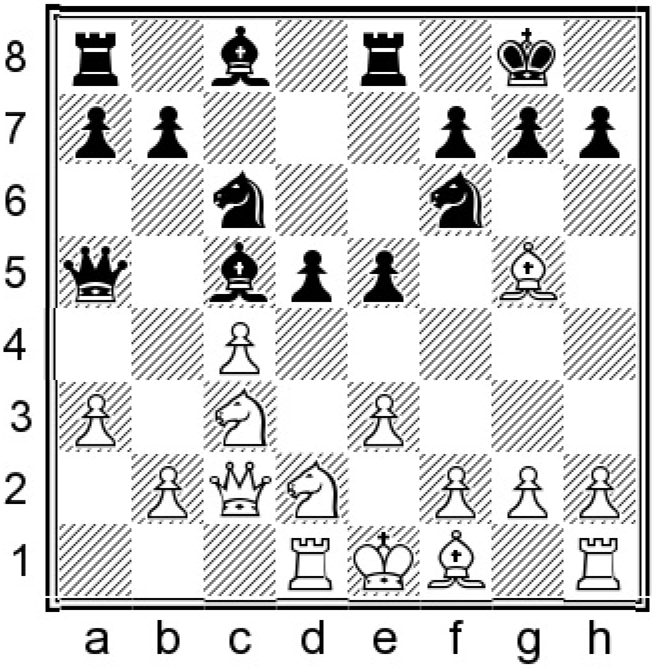


28.b4! A nice way to finish the game wit a crafty tactical idea!

28...♗xb4 29.♖xd4 1-0

Carissa Yip vs Anna Zatonskih, USA (ch) 2021; Photo by Lennart Ootes

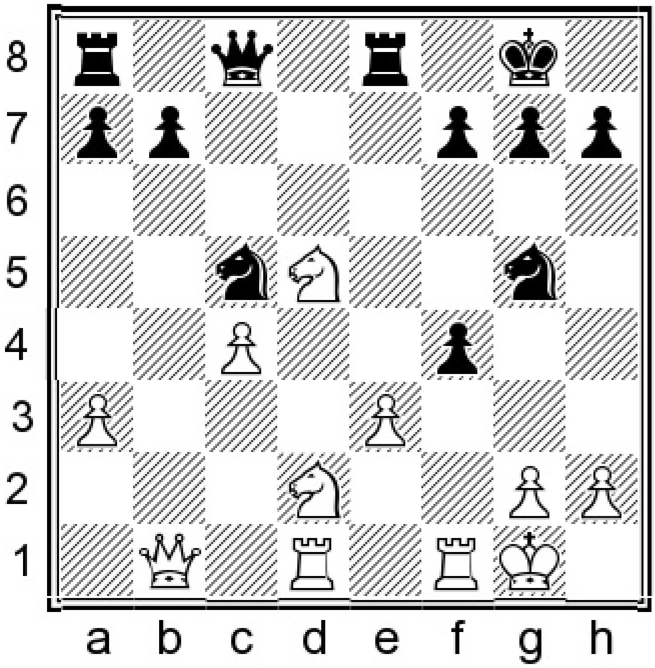
Krush, Irina (2429) - Eswaran, Ashritha (2244)
USA (ch), 2021



This is very topical line of the Queen's Gambit Declined (QGD). We have another example of how hard it is to hold this position, although we all may know that is theoretically safe for Black.

12...♘d4 13.♕b1 ♗f5 14.♗d3 ♗xd3 15.♕xd3 ♘e4 16.♘xd5 ♘xg5 17.b4 ♕d8 18.bxc5 ♘de6 19.O-O ♘xc5 So far so good. **20.♕c2**

20.♕b1 ♘ge6 (20...♕c8? 21.f4! exf4



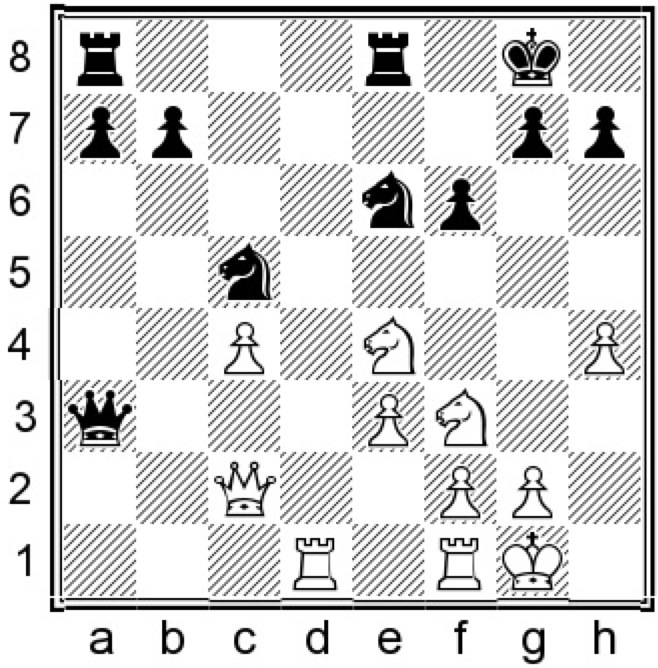
22.♖xf4! f6 23.h4 ♘f7 24.♖df1! (24.♖xf6 gxf6 25.♘xf6+ ♔f8 26.♕xh7 ♕e6 (26...♖d8!?) 27.♖f1 ♖ad8 28.♔h1 ♔e7 29.♘d5+ ♖xd5 30.cxd5 ♕xd5 31.♖f5 ♕e6 32.♖xc5 ♖h8 33.♕d3 ♖xh4+ 34.♔g1± Tabatabaei,Mohammad Amin 2629 - Esipenko,Andrey 2682, chess.com (Internet) 2020) 24...♖e6 25.♘f3! White's dominance after Nd4 is overwhelming.) 21.♘f3 ♘f8 22.♖d2 ♖c8 23.♖fd1 ♕d6 24.♘c3 ♕g6= Aronian,Levon 2764 - Nakamura,Hikaru 2769, Stavanger 2018 - 137/(146)

20...♘ge6 21.♘f3 f6? Black's first mistake is a serious one.

21...♘f8 22.♘c3 ♕a5 23.♖d5 ♖ad8! Should have sufficed for Black to hold.

22.h4 e4?! An inaccuracy in an already bad position.

23.♘c3! ♕a5 24.♘xe4 ♕xa3



25.♘d6! Now White's advantage is substantial. Krush converted it with a technique that pleases the eye.

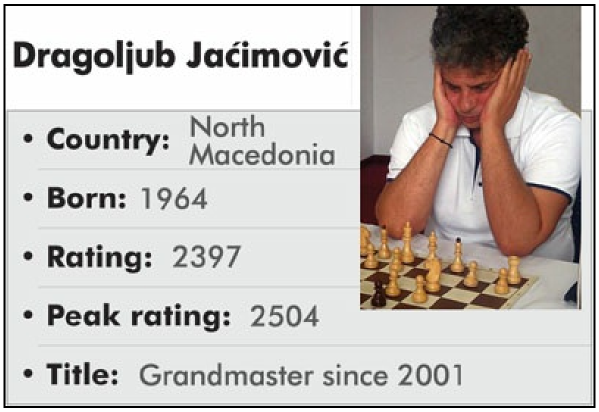
25...♖ed8 26.h5 ♕a6 27.♘f5 ♕a4 28.♕e2 ♖xd1 29.♖xd1 ♘e4 30.♖d5 ♖d8 31.♘3d4 ♖xd5 32.cxd5 ♘6g5 33.f4 ♘f7 34.♔h2 ♕a1 35.♕b5 ♘ed6 36.♘xd6 ♘xd6 37.♕d7 ♕a3 38.♘e6 1-0

EUOROPEAN CLUB CUP 2021

By GM Dragoljub Jaćimović

Tournament Report

The 36th European Chess Club Cup was held in Struga from September 18-24. After a break of a year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the best chess teams in Europe came together again. After the withdrawal of the Padova team, the main favorites for the first place remained Alkaloid (Severna Makedonija), Bronze Horseman (Russia) and Novy Bor (Cesko).



Dragoljub Jaćimović

- **Country:** North Macedonia
- **Born:** 1964
- **Rating:** 2397
- **Peak rating:** 2504
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 2001

As many times before, the winner of the tournament was decided in the last round. Bronze Horseman played the whole tournament quite safely, and with a little luck won the first prize. Novy Bor justified the "title" of a respectable team and did not disappoint clinching the second place. Alkaloid failed to finish among the top three teams with a bad result in the last round, even though the team was the rating favourite. All in all, this European Chess Club Cup passed without too much excitement. Also, I should mention that Sloven Ruma, the only Serbian team in the tournament, which consisted of highly experienced grandmasters, found itself in the division of 4-7 place, with five victories and two defeats. Maybe they could have done better, but this is also a solid placement considering the team's starting ranking.

The team of Bronze Horseman, led by Svidler (who did not win any games), had outstanding results on the lower boards, where Alekseev and Ponkratov did an excellent job, and brought the Russian team another title.

By the way, the tournament was held under strict COVID-19 measures, with two tests during the tournament and keeping the distance during the games. Some players used face masks, some played without masks, and all of that gave some weird flavour to this event. The playing conditions were decent, except that a couple of teams traveled for ten minutes to the playing hall. Overall, the quality of the play was at a really remarkable level, but due to the overall situation this tournament will not be remembered for long.

Dear readers, I bring you four entertaining games for your study and enjoyment!

STRUGA, IX 2021
The 36th European Club Cup

(38 teams, 7 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes to the end of the game, with a 30 seconds increment from move one.

1. Mednyi Vsadnik 13*/236,5**/29½*** [Svidler 2½/6, An. Esipenko 4/6, Vl. Fedoseev 3½/6, K. Alekseenko 5½/6, Matlakov 3½/5, P. Ponkratov 4½/6, K. Sakaev 3/3, A. Goganov 3/4], **2.** AVE Nový Bor 12/201,5/27½ [P. Harikrishna 3/6, R. Wojtaszek 3/6, D. Navara 5½/7, M. Ragger 3½/6, Antón Guijarro 5½/7, Sasikiran 2½/4, Mat. Bartel 4½/6], **3.** Vugar Gashimov 11/191/28½ [Rauf Mamedov 3½/5, K. Shevchenko 4/7, V. Asadli 4/6, A. Suleymanli 5/7, U. Sadikhov 5/7, A. Ahmadzada 4/6, M. Ibrahimli 3/4], **4.** KPRF 10/201,5/27½ [A. Grischuk 5/7, Vl. Malakhov 3/6, Dreev 1½/3, Zvjaginsev 4½/6, S. Rublevsky 4/6, Evgeny Alekseev 4½/7, K. Sychev 2½/4, Alexei Kornev 2½/3], **5.** Skákfélag Selfoss 10/188,5/28 [Alexa. Donchenko 5/7, An. Demchenko 5½/7, Mi. Al. Antipov 5/7, Lomasov 5½/7, Arngrímsson 3½/7, Lagerman 3½/7], **6.** Team XtraCon 10/175,5/26½ [F. Berkes 4½/7, T. Bánusz 3/7, Gábor Papp 4/7, Je. Thybo 5/6, Rozentalis 5/7, Chatalbashev 4/6, Hen. Danielsen 1/2], **7.** Sloven Ruma 10/150,5/24 [A. Indić 3/7, I. Ivanišević 4/6, I. Miladinović 2½/6, Mil. Perunović 3½/6, Mir. D. Miljković 4½/7, G. Kosanović 2/3, Miloš Stanković 4½/7], **8.** Alkaloid 9/229/29½, **9.** Silla-Valencia Orígen del Ajedrez 9/201/26½, **10.** Schachgesellschaft Riehen 9/142/24½, **11.** Stocholms SS 9/129/22, **12.** BEER SHEVA 8/168/24, **13.** Offerspill Sjakklubb 8/143/25, **14.** Prilep 8/123/19½, **15.** Maribor Poligram 8/114,5/21½, **16.** Lunds ASK 8/110,5/21, etc.

* Matchpoints (2 for wins, 1 for draws, 0 for losses)
** Olympiad–Sonneborn–Berger–Tie-Break without lowest result (Khanty-Mansiysk)
*** Game-points

C02
Kryvoruchko, Yuriy (2689) - Christiansen, Johan Sebastian (2609)
Struga, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 The French Blockade Variation usually leads to hard strategic battles.

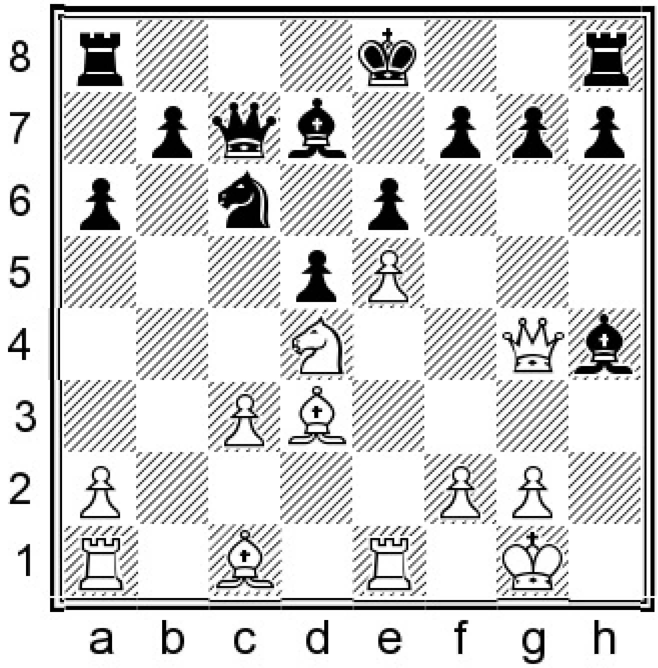
4.c3 ♕b6 The early queen sortie is quite trendy.

5.♘f3 ♘c6 6.♗d3 cxd4 7.O-O

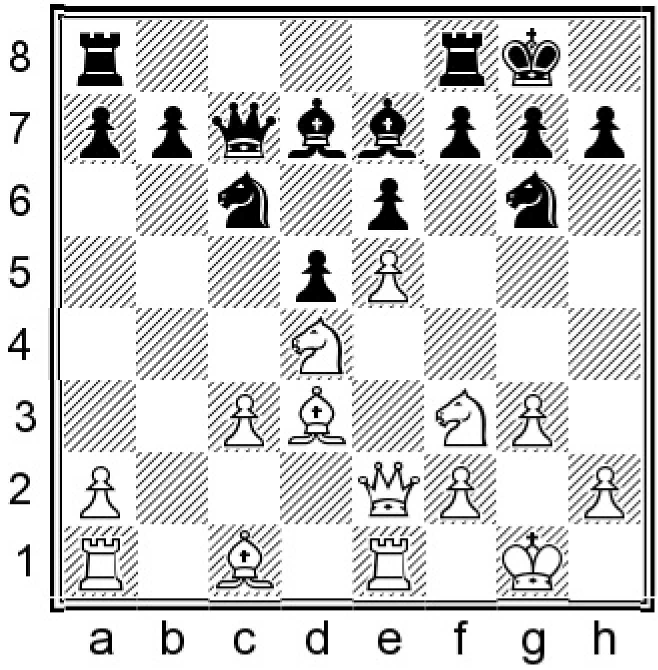
7.cxd4 Pap,Misa 2504 - Vuelban,Virgilio 2369, Roseto degli Abruzzi 2010 - 109/155

7...♗d7 8.♖e1

Commonly played is 8.♘bd2 ♘ge7 (8...dxc3 9.bxc3 ♘ge7∞) 9.♘b3!?N (9.cxd4) 9...dxc3 10.bxc3 ♘g6 11.♖e1 ♗e7 (11...♕c7 12.♕e2 ♗e7 13.♘bd4 a6 14.♖b1 (14.h4?! ♘xh4 15.♘xh4 ♗xh4 16.♕g4



16...♘xd4! (16...♗e7?! 17.♕xg7 O-O-O∞ Blomqvist,Erik 2535 - Jaskolka,Tomasz 2220, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2021) 17.cxd4 ♕c3∓) 14...♘xd4 15.cxd4 ♗b5 16.♗xb5+ axb5 17.♕xb5+ ♕d7 18.♕xd7+ ♔xd7 19.♖xb7+ ♔c6 20.♖b2 ♖hb8=∞) 12.♖b1 (12.g3 ♕c7 13.♕e2 O-O 14.h4!? (14.♘bd4



14...♘cxe5! 15.♘xe5 ♘xe5 16.♗f4 (16.♕xe5 ♕xc3 17.♘f5 ♗f6∓) 16...f6 17.♕h5 g6 18.♗xe5 ♕xe5 19.♖xe5 gxh5 20.♖xh5 ♖f7∓) 14...f6 15.♗xg6 hxg6 16.♗f4 fxe5 17.♗xe5 (17.♘xe5?! ♖xf4 18.gxf4 ♘xe5 19.fxe5 ♕xc3∓) 17...♘xe5 18.♘xe5 ♖f6=) 12...♕c7 13.♕e2 O-O 14.♘bd4 ♖fc8 (14...a6 15.h4! ± (15.g3 ♘xd4 16.cxd4 ♗b5= Blomqvist,Erik 2535 - Iskusnyh,Sergei 2473, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2021)) 15.h4 ♘f8 16.h5 h6 17.g4 ♘h7 18.♗f4 ♘a5 19.♖ec1 a6∞

8...♖c8 Black is delaying castling.

8...♘ge7 9.h4 ♖c8 (9...h6 Hector,Jonny 2537 - Roiz,Michael 2680, Helsingor 2008 - 103/187) 10.♘bd2 dxc3 11.bxc3 ♘a5 12.♖b1 ♕c7 13.♗a3!? ♕xc3 14.♘b3 ♘xb3 15.♖xb3 ♕a5 16.♕e2=∞

9.♘bd2 ♘ge7N

9...dxc3

10.♘b3

10.♖b1 ♘g6 11.♘b3 dxc3 12.bxc3 ♕c7 13.♘bd4 a6 14.♕e2 ♗e7 15.g3 (15.h4!?) 15...O-O 16.h4 b5 17.♘xc6 ♕xc6 18.h5 ♘h8 19.♕c2 g6 (Hector, Jonny 2465 - Brynell,Stellan 2422, Malmoe 2021) 20.♕e2 ♕xc3 21.♘h2 Δ Ng4±

10...dxc3 11.bxc3 ♘a5

A bit different type of play ensues after 11...♘g6 12.h4!? ♕c7 13.♕e2 ♗e7 14.h5 ♘h4 15.♘xh4 ♗xh4 16.♕g4 ♘xe5 17.♖xe5 ♗xf2+ 18.♔xf2 ♕xe5 19.♗d2 O-O 20.♖e1 ♕c7 21.♘d4±

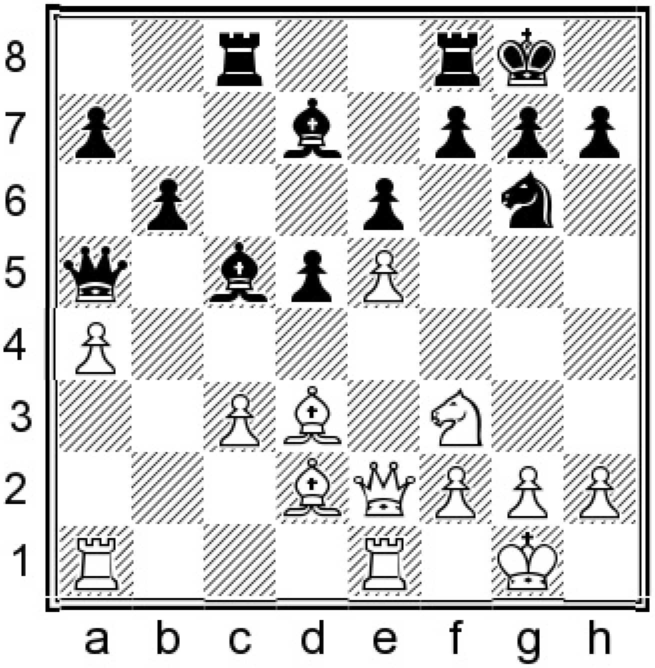
12.♗e3 ♕c7 13.♘xa5 ♕xa5 14.♖b1 b6

14...♖c7 15.a4! ♗xa4 (15...♘c6 16.♗d2 ♕c5 17.♕e2 ♗e7 18.♖ec1=∞) 16.♕e2 ♘c8 17.♖a1 b5 18.♘d4 a6 19.♗d2 ♕b6 20.♖eb1±

15.♕e2 ♘f5? Christiansen chooses a wrong jump for his knight.

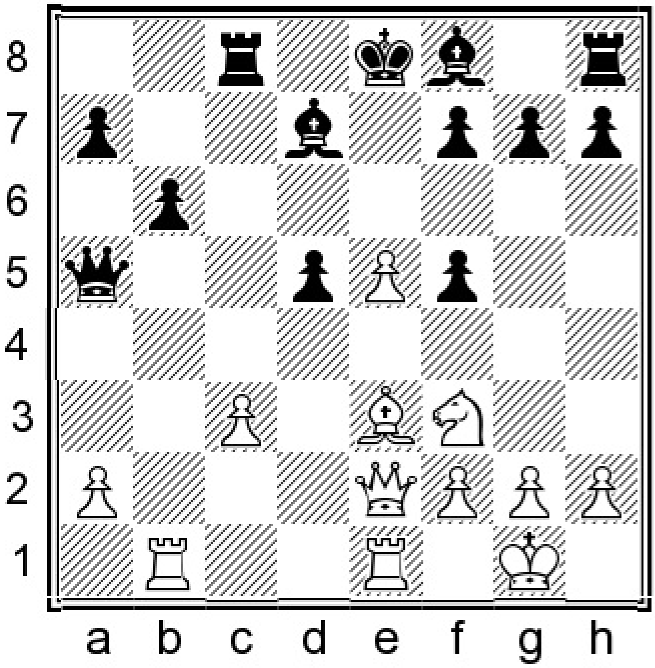
15...♘c6 16.a4! ♗e7 17.♗b5 O-O 18.♗d2=∞;

15...♘g6 16.a4 ♗c5 17.♗d2 O-O (17...♕xa4 18.♖a1 ♕c6 19.h4=∞) 18.♖a1



18...d4! 19.cxd4 ♗b4= leads to a roughly balanced position.

16.♗xf5 exf5



17.e6! Now the black king is in deep trouble!

17...♗xe6 18.♘d4 ♗e7 19.♗g5! ♕c5 20.♘xe6 fxe6 21.♕xe6 White's assault is very powerful.

21...♖c7 22.♖bd1 ♖d7 23.♖e5 h6 24.♕g6+ ♔f8 25.♕xf5+ ♔e8 26.♗xe7 The final tactical nuance.

26...♖xe7 27.♖de1 1-0

B92
Rublevsky, Sergei (2641) - Alekseenko, Kirill (2693)
Struga, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 True to his enterprising style, the young Alekseenko goes for the Najdorf Sicilian.

6.♗e2 Being highly experienced, Rublevsky opts for a quiet "classical" approach hoping to tame his young rival.

6...e5 7.♘b3 ♗e7 8.O-O O-O 9.♖e1 h6

9...♗e6 Alekseev, Evgeny 2626 - Iljiushenok,Ilia 2515, Russia 2020 - 146/89

10.a4 ♗e6 11.♗f3 ♘h7N Black is trying to exchange the dark-square bishops.

11...♘bd7

12.♘d5 ♗g5 13.♗e3

13.c4 ♘c6 14.♗e3 ♗xe3 15.♖xe3 ♘g5 16.♗g4 ♖c8=

13...♗xe3 14.♖xe3 ♘g5 15.♖d3

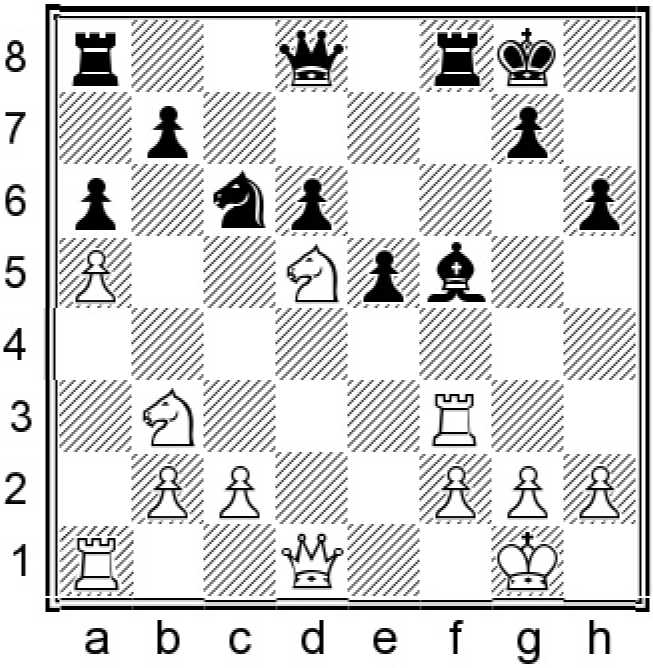
15.♗g4 ♘c6 16.a5 ♖c8 17.♘b6 ♖c7 18.c4 f5 19.exf5 ♗xf5∞

15...♘c6 16.a5 f5! Black is first to make a break in the centre.

17.exf5 ♗xf5 18.♖e3 ♘xf3+ A very direct and concrete choice by Alekseenko.

18...♔h8 19.c4 ♖c8 20.♗g4 ♘e7 21.♘b6 ♖c6=

19.♖xf3



19...♕h4! Now White must be very careful.

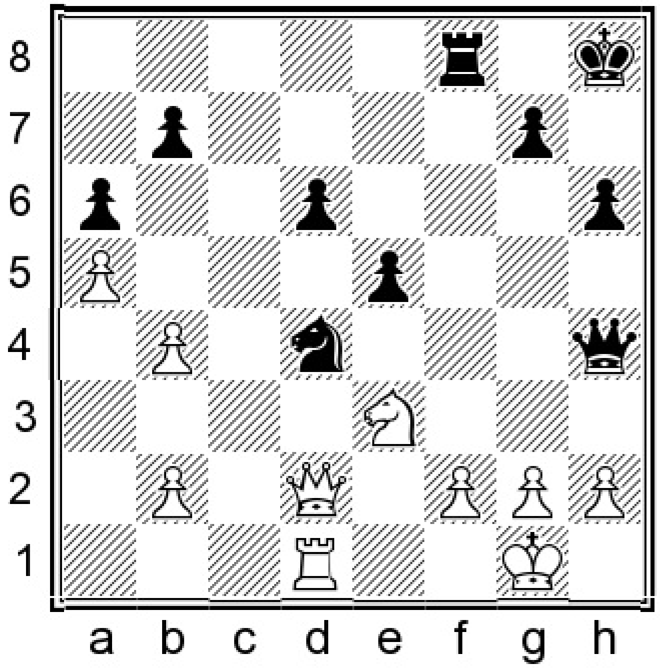
20.♘e3

20.♕e2 ♕e4 21.♕xe4 ♗xe4 22.♖xf8+ ♖xf8 23.♘e3 ♔f7 24.f3 ♗g6 25.c3 ♔e6=

20...♗e6 21.♖xf8+

21.♕xd6? leads to a quick demise. 21...♖xf3 22.gxf3 (22.♕xe6+ ♖f7-+) 22...♕h3-+

21...♖xf8 22.♕d2 ♔h8 23.♖d1 ♗xb3 24.cxb3 ♘d4 25.b4 Is there enough energy in the position to play for a full point?



25...d5! Apparently, Alekseenko finds interesting resources to add spice to the play.

26.h3

26.♘xd5? ♖d8-+

26...♖f3! Burying motif! The rook is immune to capture.

27.♘f1 ♖xh3

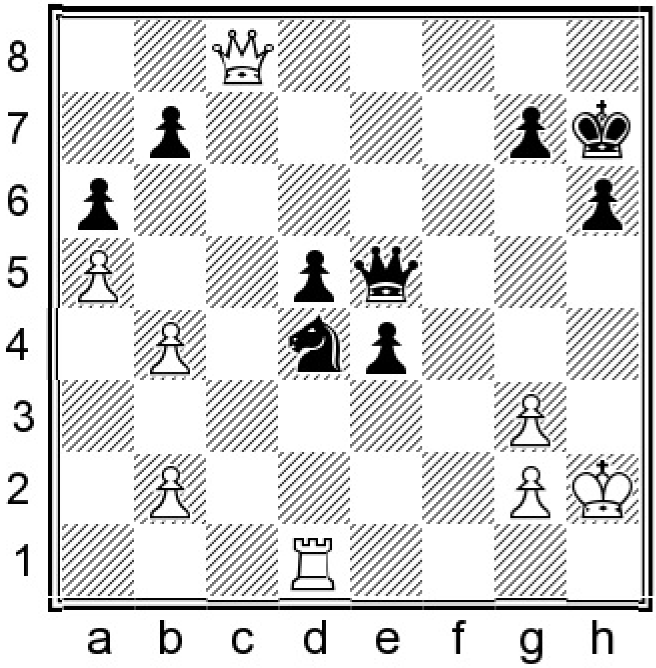
27...♖b3 28.♘e3 ♕e4∞

28.♘g3 ♕f6 29.♕c1 ♖xg3 Crashing through in style!

29...♖h4 30.♕c8+ ♔h7 31.♕xb7 ♕e6 32.b5 ♘xb5 33.♕xd5 ♕xd5 34.♖xd5 ♖a4 35.♖xe5 ♖xa5=

30.♕c8+□ The position is extremely sharp, but remains equal with accurate play.

30...♔h7 31.fxg3 e4 32.♔h2 ♕e5



33.♖xd4! Rublevsky wisely returns the material.

33...♕xd4 34.b5? The crucial mistake.

34.♕f5+ The queen check was obligatory. 34...♔g8 (34...g6 35.♕f7+ ♕g7 36.♕xd5 ♕e7 37.♕c5=) 35.♕c8+ ♔h7 36.♕f5+=

34...♕e5-+ 35.bxa6

35.b6 d4 (35...e3? 36.♕c2+ ♔h8 37.♕c8++-) 36.♕xb7 e3 37.♕c7 (37.♕c6 d3 38.♕f3 d2 39.b7 ♕b5 40.♕e4+ ♔h8-+) 37...♕h5+ 38.♔g1 ♕d1+ 39.♔h2 e2-+

35...bxa6 36.♕xa6 d4 37.♕c4 d3 And the black d-pawn is way too quick.

38.a6 ♕h5+ 39.♔g1 d2 40.♕xe4+ ♕g6 0-1

Sergei Rublevsky play game against Kirill Alekseenko, Struga 2021; Photo by C & P Media

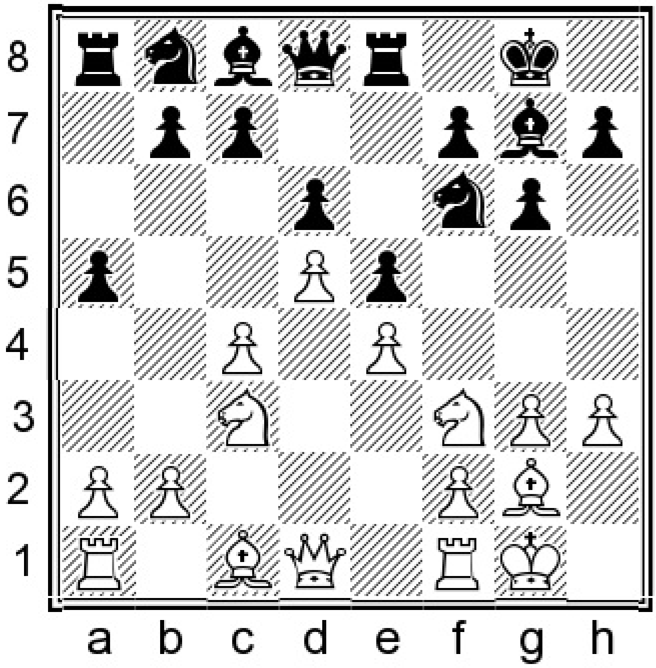
E63
Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2762) - Carlsen, Magnus (2855)
Struga, 2021

1.d4 g6 2.c4 ♗g7 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♘c3 d6 5.g3 O-O 6.♗g2 ♘c6 7.O-O e5 The King's Indian Fianchetto battle between two elite players on the first board.

8.h3!? ♖e8 9.d5 ♘b8

The alternative jump is 9...♘e7 Garcia Gonzalez, Guillermo 2525 - Hoi,Carsten 2455, Thessaloniki (ol) 1988 - 46/779

10.e4 a5



11.♗e3N ± Mamedyarov essayed a new move, gaining some edge.

11.♗g5; 11.♘e1

11...♘a6 12.a3

12.♘e1 ♘c5 (12...♘d7 13.a3 f5∞) 13.♔h2 ♗d7 14.b3 c6 15.a3 cxd5 16.cxd5 a4 17.♗xc5 dxc5 18.♘xa4 ♗xa4 (18...♗f8? 19.♘b2± Kobo,Ori 2490 - Yaniv,Yuval 2345, Ramat Gan (rapid) 2021) 19.bxa4 ♕d7 20.♖b1 ♕xa4 21.♕xa4 ♖xa4 22.♘d3 ♘xe4 23.♗xe4 ♖xe4 24.♘xc5 ♖d4=

12...♘c5 13.♘d2 a4 Claming space on the queenside and freezing the white pawns.

13...♘fd7 14.b4±;

13...♗d7 14.b4 ♘a6 15.♕b3±

14.♗xc5 dxc5 15.♘xa4 ♕e7 Black sacrifices a pawn for development.

16.b3 ♗d7 17.♘b2 ♖a6?! 18.♘d3 ♖ea8 19.♕c1 White has a stable advantage here.

19.a4!? Δ Rc1, f4

19...♘e8 20.♕b2

20.♖a2!? Δ f4

20...b6 21.b4 ♘d6 22.bxc5 bxc5 23.♘xc5 ♘xc4 24.♕b4 Not the optimal decision by White.

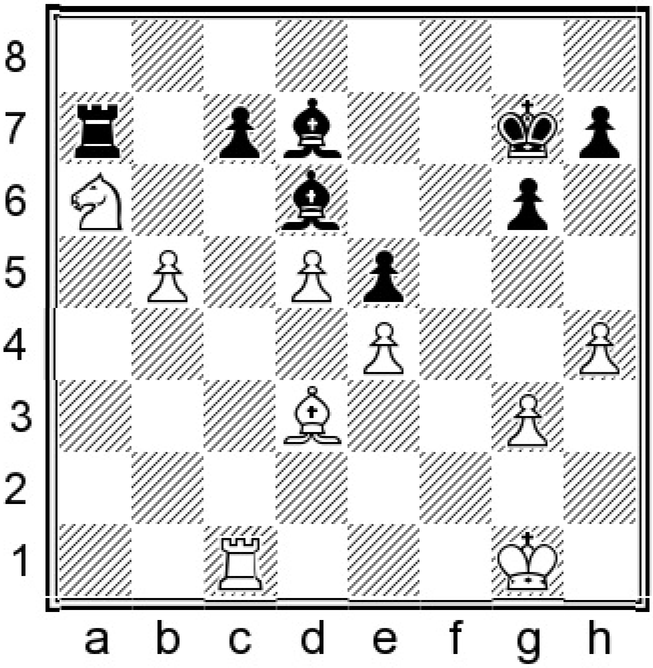
24.♘xc4 ♕xc5 25.♖fc1±

24...♘xd2 A series of forced moves beging with liquidation.

RR24...♖xa3 25.♖xa3 ♘xa3 26.♖a1 ♗f8 27.♕b7 ♖c8 28.♘xd7 ♕xd7 29.♗f1±

25.♘xa6 ♕xb4 26.axb4 ♘xf1 27.♗xf1 ♗f8 Black has the bishop pair, but White remains a pawn up with slight advantage.

28.♖c1 ♗d6 29.b5 ♖a7± 30.h4 ♔g7 31.♗d3 f5 32.f3 fxe4 33.fxe4



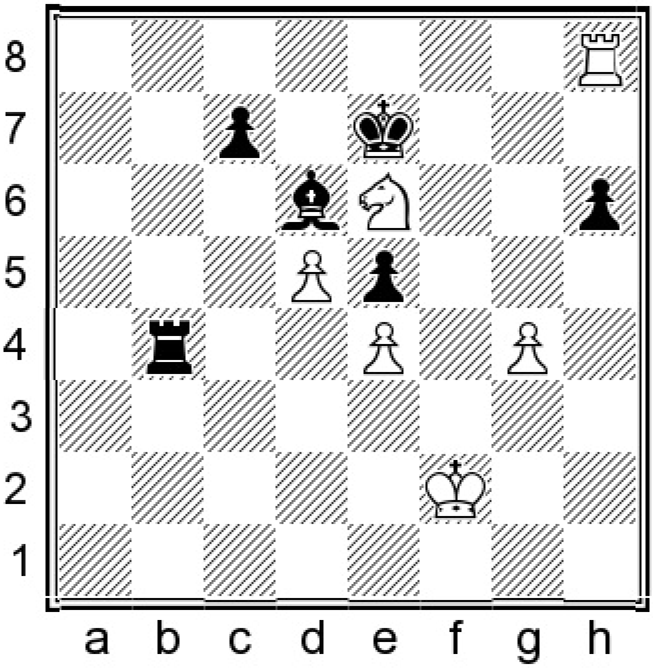
33...g5!? Carlsen is trying to complicate the matters and break White's kingside pawn formation.

34.hxg5 ♔g6 35.♔f2 ♔xg5 36.♗e2 ♗e8 37.♔e3 ♖b7 38.♘c5 ♖a7 39.♘a6 ♖b7 40.♖c3 ♖a7 41.♔f2 ♖b7 42.♘c5 ♖a7 43.♘e6+ ♔f6 44.g4 ♗g6? After some manoeuvring Carlsen makes a mistake.

RR44...♗d7 was essential here. 45.g5+ (45.♖f3+ ♔e7 (45...♔g6?! 46.♘f8+ ♗xf8 47.♖xf8 ♖a2 48.♖b8±) 46.g5 ♖a2 47.♖h3 ♗xb5 48.♖xh7+ ♔e8 49.g6 ♗xe2 50.g7 ♗h5+ 51.♔g3 ♖a3+ 52.♔h4 ♗f7=) 45...♔g6 46.♖c2 ♗xe6 47.dxe6 ♔xg5 48.♗c4±

45.♖c6 ♔e7 46.♖a6 ♖b7 47.♔e3 ♗e8 48.♖a8 h6 49.♔f3 ♗xb5 50.♗xb5 ♖xb5 Black loses the bishop pair, but equalises the pawn count. White still got some hopes for victory.

51.♖h8 ♖b3+ 52.♔f2 ♖b4



53.♖xh6? Mamedyarov makes a crucial mistake here taking the pawn.

53.♖h7+! was the way to go. 53...♔e8 54.♖xh6 ♖xe4 55.g5+-

53...♖xe4 54.g5 ♖g4 55.♔f3 ♖g1 56.♖h7+ ♔e8 57.♔e4 ♖e1+ 58.♔f5 ♖f1+ 59.♔g6 e4= After a prolonged struggle the World Champion equalises.

60.♘xc7+

60.♖h4 e3 61.♖e4 ♔d7 62.♖xe3 ♖d1=

60...♗xc7 61.♖xc7 e3 62.♖c4 ♔d7 63.♖e4 ♖e1 64.♖e6 e2 65.♔g7 ♖g1 66.♖xe2 ♖xg5+ 67.♔f6 ♖xd5 68.♖e5 ♖xe5 69.♔xe5 A proper high class duel to the bare kings! **1/2-1/2**

Alkaloid
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Mamedyarov Shakhriyar
Carlsen Magnus
C&P MEDIA

Shakhriyar Mamedyarov vs Magnus Carlsen, Struga 2021; Photo by C & P Media

E60
Alekseenko, Kirill (2693) - Ragger, Markus (2665)
Struga, 2021

Markus Ragger, Struga 2021; Photo by C & P Media

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.h4

A popular Anti-Gruenfeld treatment.

3...♗g7 4.♘c3 c5 5.d5 e6 The position is quite fluid and fresh, in the Benoni style.

5...O-O Kukhmazov,Arsen 2451 - Budrewicz,Krzysztof 2289, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2021 - 148/(194)

6.h5N

6.e4

6...♘xh5 7.g4 ♘f6 8.d6 Most energetic. White is playing for a quick kill.

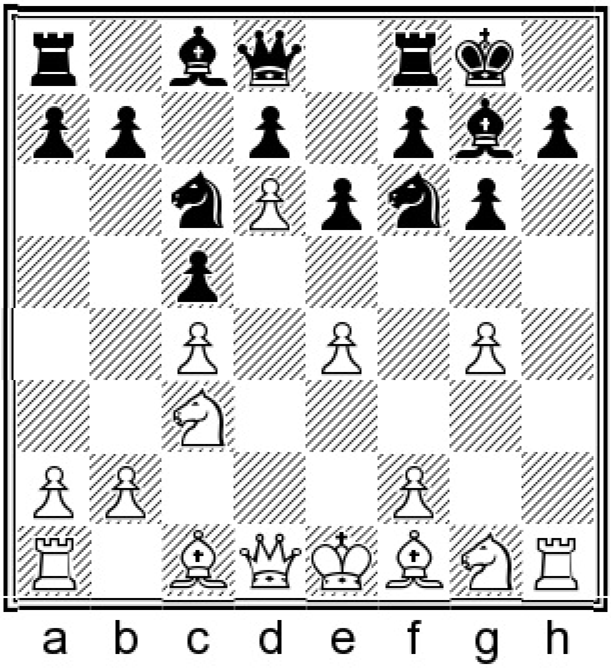
8.g5 ♘h5 9.e4 exd5 10.♘xd5 (10.cxd5 d6 11.♗e2 ♘d7

12.♗xh5 gxh5 13.♕xh5 ♘e5∓; 10.exd5 ♗xc3+! 11.bxc3 d6 12.♗e2 ♘g7∓) 10...♘c6 11.♗e2 d6 12.♗xh5 gxh5 13.♗f4 ♗e6∞

8...O-O?!

The pawn should have been taken: 8...♘xg4! 9.♘b5 ♘a6 10.e4 ♘e5 11.f4 ♘c6 12.♘f3 (12.e5 b6 13.♖h3 ♗b7∓) 12...b6∓

9.e4 ♘c6



10.♕f3! h5?!

10...♘d4 11.♕h3 ♘c2+ (11...h5 12.gxh5 ♘xh5 13.♗e2+- - 10...h5) 12.♔d1 ♘xa1 13.e5+-;

10...b5 11.♕h3 ♗b7 12.♗g5 ♖e8 13.♘f3±

11.gxh5 ♘xh5 12.♗e2 ♘d4 13.♕h3 A very straightforward yet precise play by the young Russian.

13.♕g2 ♘c2+ 14.♔f1 ♘xa1 15.♗xh5 gxh5 (15...♗xc3 16.bxc3 ♕f6 17.♗e2 ♕xc3 18.♗g5 ♘c2 19.♕h2+-) 16.e5 f5 17.♗h6 ♖f7 18.♕g6 ♘c2 19.♘f3+-

13...♕f6

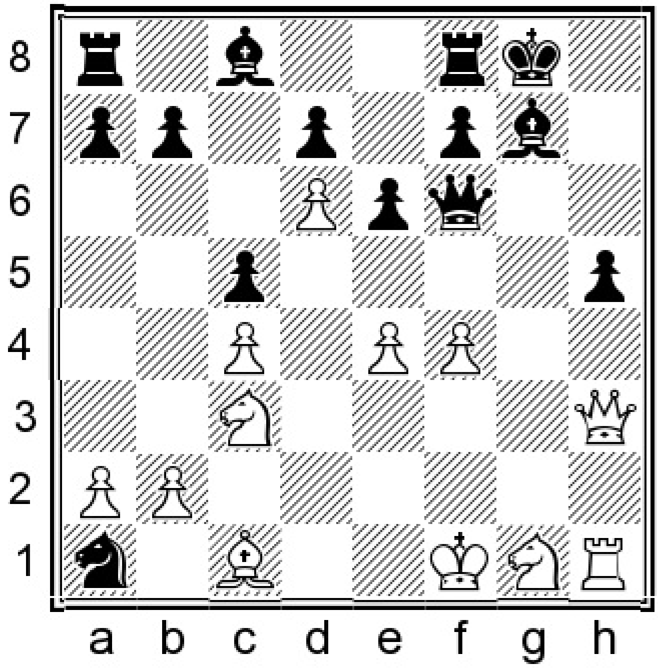
13...♘xe2 14.♘gxe2 ♗xc3+ 15.♕xc3 ♕f6 16.♕e3 ♕g7 17.♗d2 f6 18.O-O-O b6 19.♖dg1+-

14.f4 ♘c2+

14...♘xe2 15.♘gxe2 ♖e8 16.♕f3 ♖b8 17.♗e3 b6 18.O-O-O ♗b7 19.♖dg1+-

15.♔f1 ♘xa1 The rook is of no interest for White.

16.♗xh5 gxh5



17.f5!+- Spectacular! Black's position is holding by a thread.

17...♖e8

17...exf5 was not saving either 18.♘d5 ♕xd6 19.♗f4 ♕e6 20.exf5+-

18.♕xh5 exf5 19.♘d5! Decisive!

19...♕d4

Black does not achive much after 19...♕xd6 20.♕h7+ ♔f8 21.♗h6+-

20.♘e2 A brilliant finale! **1-0**

EUROPEAN WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP 2021

By WIM Sandra Đukić

Tournament review

Sandra Đukić

- **Country:** Serbia
- **Born:** 1988
- **Rating:** 2118
- **Peak rating:** 2233
- **Title:** Woman International Master since 2011

The 14th edition of the European Women's Team Championship took place at the Hotel Toplice in the Terme Catez Spa Complex in eastern Slovenija from November 12 to November 21. The players played a 9 round Swiss tournament. A total of 31 teams participated in the battle for the first place in the women's event.

All players, captains, arbiters, and tournament staff were obliged by the Organizing Committee to take a rapid Antigen test right upon their arrival in the venue. The testing was later conducted one more time, on November 17, the free day of the tournament.

Besides being one of the most important tournaments, The European Team Championship is the most exciting championship for players, and it definitely provides great entertainment for all chess lovers.

Representing their own country brings more responsibility over the board for each and every player, but it also empowers the players with motivation, considering that the whole team is by their side. The team is consisted of players, reserves, a selector and a coach, but let's not forget the great contribution from all the people who follow online games daily and provide their full support to the players. The excitement gets even greater after a couple of hours of play each day, because even though some of the games are finished, you are there waiting for your national team to retain the advantage or make a comeback in games that are still going on.

The team of Russian Federation won the first place, and that came as no surprise, considering that the Russian women grab the title with a round to spare. Russian women team previously won the prestigious title at European Team Championships in 2019, 2017, and 2015.

The Russian team gathered GM Aleksandra Goryachkina, GM Kateryna Lagno, GM Valentina Gunina, IM Polina Shuvalova, IM Alina Kashlinskaya and they did not leave any room for players of other countries to even think of winning the gold medal. These girls and their powerful play once again justified Russia's place at the top of the ladder.

Polina Shuvalova made the best result on the 4th board with 7 points out of 8 rounds while Alina Kashlinskaya made the best result on the 5th board with 6 1/2 out of 7 rounds and incredible performance 2695. Valentina Gunina had two defeats, but those did not affect the final outcome of the matches in question. The other players of the Russian team finished the European Team Championship without a single defeat.

One fun fact is that in 2019 we had the same medal winners at the European women's team championship like this year (2021): Russia, Georgia, Azerbaijan. On the other hand, the Ukraine team was not fortunate at all.

As I mentioned at the beginning, all players' captains, arbiters and tournament staff did an additional rapid Antigen test on November 17 free day. Anna Ushenina, former Women's World Chess Champion, tested positive. The Ukraine team exercised the right to field a new player in accordance with the European Championship rules. Anna Muzychuk arrived to Slovenija to help her friends, but that, unfortunately, was not enough to win a medal this year.

Georgia held the second place from the very beginning (GM Nana Dzagnidze made the best result on 1st board with 5 1/2 points out of 7 rounds and incredible performance 2683, while Lela Javakhasvili made the best result on second board with 6 points out of 8 rounds). Finally, with a big win in last round against Nederland, Azerbaijan took the third place. Their medal was well deserved, if I may add! These girls are led by amazing (and equally stunning) young chess player IM Gunay Mammadzada. They have the great chemistry and they are always smiling. But do not get fooled by their charisma! Once they get in the game mode, they become extremely fierce opponents regardless of all the beauty they possess!

The Serbian team also made a great result, finishing at the 6th place. The great young player WGM Teodora Injac made an outstanding result on 1st board (7 out of 9) without a single loss (rating performance 2544). WIM Marina Gajcin played very interesting, brave, dynamic games, and scored well winning 1st place on the 5th board with 6 1/2 points out of 8. WGM Marija Manakova, one of the Serbian players, expressed the regret that the tournament had not lasted longer. She got into a great shape at the very end of the tournament, with two very high-quality and tactically important games.

TERME ČATEŽ, XI 2021

The 14th European Women's Team Championship

(31 teams, 9 rounds)

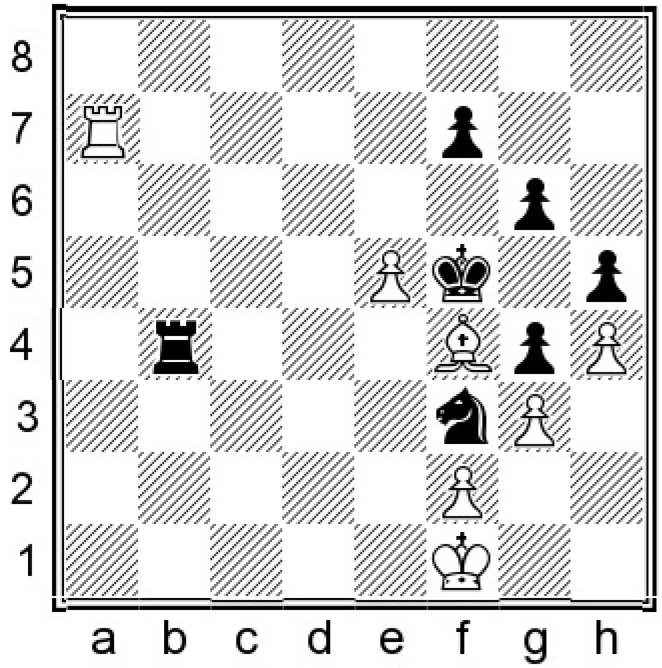
Time Control: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move one.

1. Russia (RUS) 18*/272,5**/29*** [Rtg Avg: 2538; Goryachkina 5½/7, Lagno 6/8, Gunina 4/6, Shuvalova 7/8, Kashlinskaya 6½/7], **2. Georgia** (GEO) 15/215,0/22½ [Rtg Avg: 2446; Dzagnidze 5½/7, L. Javakhishvili 6/8, M. Arabidze 4½/9, S. Melia 3/7, Gvetadze 3½/5], **3. Azerbaijan** (AZE) 12/196,0/22 [Rtg Avg: 2383; Gunay Mammadzada 6/9, Gulnar Mammadova 4/8, K. Balajayeva 4½/7, Fataliyeva 3½/5, G. Beydullayeva 4/7], **4. Ukraine** (UKR) 12/187,0/20 [Rtg Avg: 2448; A. Muzychuk 1/2, Osmak 2½/7, N. Buksa 4½/8, I. Gaponenko 4½/7, N. Zhukova 5½/8, Ushenina 2/4], **5. Deutschland** (GER) 11/153,5/21 [Rtg Avg: 2369; E. Pähtz 5/8, J. Heinemann 6/9, H. Klek 4/8, Jana Schneider 2½/5, M. Lubbe 3½/6], **6. Srbija** (SRB) 11/150,5/21½ [Rtg Avg: 2304; T. Injac 7/9, A. Velikić 1½/5, J. Erić 4½/9, M. Manakova 2/5, M. Gajčin 6½/8], **7.** Polska (POL) 10/194,5/19½, **8.** Nederland (NED) 10/178,5/21½, **9.** Italia (ITA) 10/175,5/19, **10.** France (FRA) 10/170,5/20, **11.** Armenia (ARM) 10/167,0/20, **12.** Magyarország (HUN) 10/153,0/20, **13.** Greece (GRE) 10/137,5/16½, **14.** România (ROU) 9/166,0/20, **15.** Slovensko (SVK) 9/134,0/18, **16.** Lietuva (LTU) 9/131,0/16½, **17.** Sverige (SWE) 9/117,0/16½, etc.

* Matchpoints (2 for wins, 1 for draws, 0 for losses)
** Olympiad–Sonneborn–Berger–Tie-Break without lowest result (Khanty-Mansiysk)
*** Game-points

In the second round a very interesting and instructive endame was played. Polina Shuvalova played flawlessly and managed to score an important victory. Black has a clear advantage. Although in principle, the rook and bishop cooperate better than the rook and knight, this endgame positions represents an exception to that principle. More importantly, all the white pawns are placed on dark squares while White has a dark-square bishop, which gives an additional advantage to Black. At the same time, Black has a more active king, which is so often a crucial factor in endgames. All these elements together guarantee Black a victory.

Matnadze, Ana (2418) - Shuvalova, Polina (2515)
Terme Catez, 2021



54...♖b1+ 55.♔e2

White cannot play 55.♔g2 because of 55...♖g1#

55...♔e4 Black threatens Re1 checkmate, so White is forced to play **56.♖a4+**

On 56.♗d2 Black has two different mates! 56...♘g1# (and 56...♘d4#)

56...♘d4+ 57.♔d2 ♖b2+ 58.♔e1 ♔d3 59.♖a3+

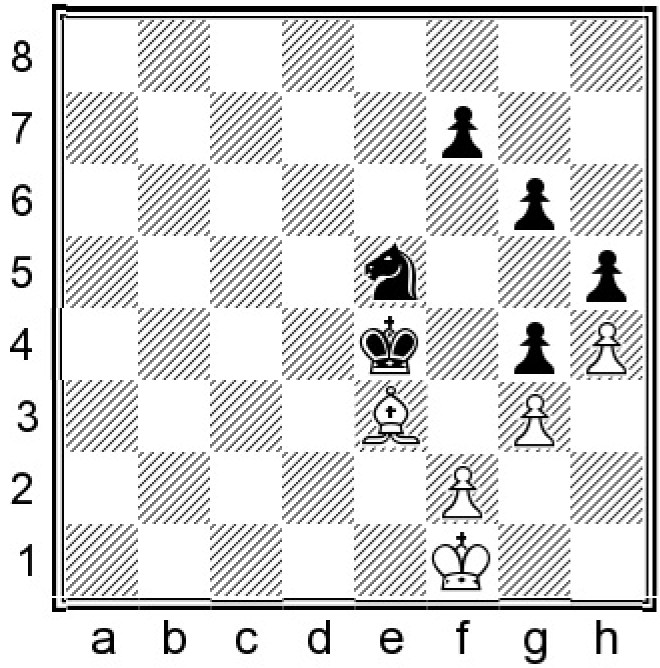
In case of 59.♔f1 ♖b1+ 60.♔g2 ♘f3 61.♖a3+ ♔e4 62.♖e3+ ♔d4 63.♖xf3 gxf3+ 64.♔xf3 ♖b3+ 65.♔g2 ♔e4-+ due to Zugzwang White loses the e5-pawn. After f5-f4 pawn advance Black should gain a decisive advantage. Even after the trade of rooks, Black should score a full point thanks to her active king and knight.

59...♖b3 60.♖xb3+

The exchange is forced, because if 60.♖a1 follows 60...♘c2+-+

60...♘xb3 The first phase is concluded with the trade of rooks. Now, the second stage should be all about the capture on e5, while the third involves the king march to f3.

61.♔f1 ♘d4 62.♔g2 ♘f3 63.♔f1 ♔e4 64.♗e3 ♘xe5



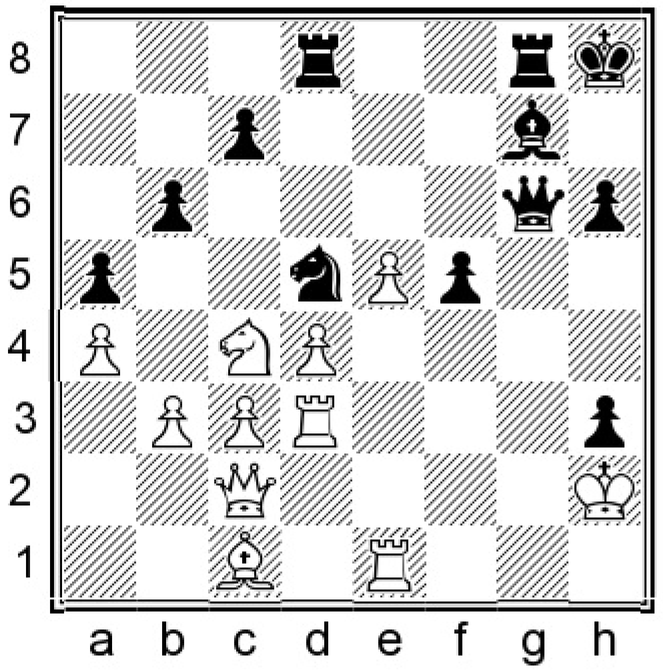
The second phase is completed. Black has an extra pawn and active position, which should secure an easy conversion. Now, Black advances the f-pawn and brings her king to f3.

65.♔g2 ♔d3 66.♔f1 ♘c4 67.♗a7 ♔d2 68.♗c5 ♔d1 69.♗a7 ♘d2+ 70.♔g2 ♔e2 71.♗b6 ♘f3 72.♗c5 ♘e1+ 73.♔g1 ♔f3 The black king reached f3, so the third phase is completed as well. The rest is pretty easy for Shuvalova!

74.♗b6 ♘d3 75.♗d4 f5 76.♗e3 f4 77.gxf4 g3 78.f5 gxf5 79.♗b6 ♘xf2 0-1

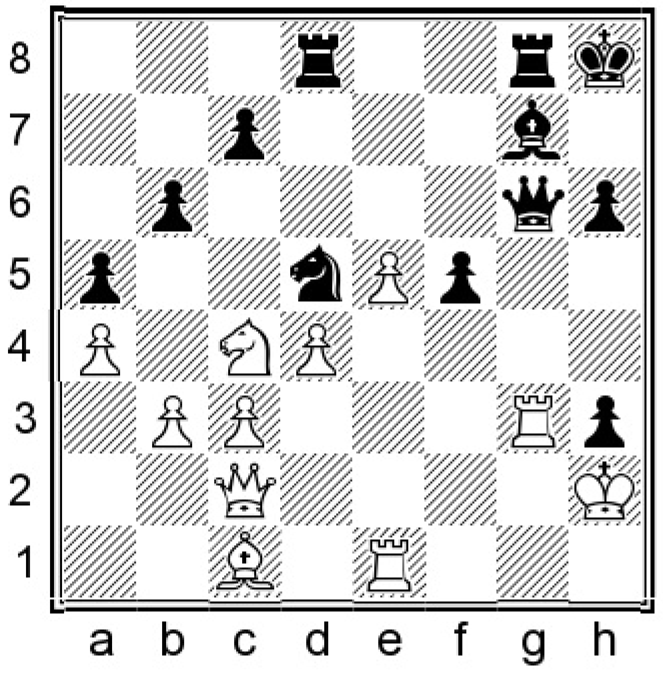
Now, we will see one critical position from Masa's game.

Gaboyan, Susanna (2253) - Manakova, Maria (2289)
Terme Catez, 2021



We have very interesting position on the board and it looks like Black has a clearly better position. Black has a lot of threats on the kingside, there is the open g-file and Black has a lot of attacking resources available: the queen on g6, the rook on g8, pawn on h3 and a very strong knight in the centre. In this position White being in a serious time trouble decided to play ♖g3. At a first glance, it is a very logical move, but in actual fact it is a losing move.

32.♖g3??⊕



32.♖xh3!? was a better move. If Black wants to keep the advantage after Rh3 she has to find a truly briliant move 32...♘xc3! The idea is to distract White's queen which has control on the second rank, or the rook which covers the h-file and the third rank. Also, there is one more hidden idea: Black's rook might penetrate at some point along the d-file taking control of this line but also having the possibility of attacking the kingside through the 4th rank which could be very dangerous for White. Since White shouldn't take Black's knight if she wants to survive, as White's central pawn structure would be damaged. A new weakness in White's position is pawn on d4 and Black has very nice outpost for his knight on d5. 33.♗e3 (33.♖xc3 ♖xd4 34.♖h3 ♖xc4 35.bxc4 (35.♕xc4 ♗xe5+ 36.♔h1 ♕g2#) 35...♗xe5+ 36.♔h1 ♕c6+; 33.♕xc3 ♗xe5+ 34.♘xe5 (34.dxe5 ♕g2#) 34...♕g2#) 33...♘d5 34.♗c1∞

32...♗xe5! 33.♘xe5 ♕xg3+ 34.♔h1 ♕xe1+ 0-1

E52
Gara, Ticia (2331) - Bulmaga, Irina (2405)
Terme Catez, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.e3 O-O 5.♘f3 b6

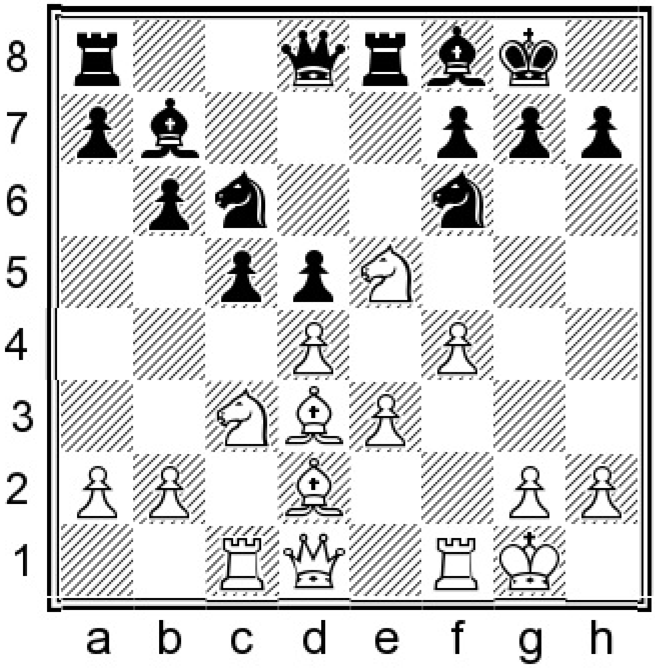
That was the last moment to follow the main idea in the Nimzo-Indian Defence and destroy White's queenside pawn structure by playing 5...♗xc3+ Of course, the choice of line is always a matter of taste.

6.♗d2 d5 7.♖c1 ♗b7 8.cxd5 exd5 9.♗d3 ♖e8 10.O-O ♗f8

10...c5 looks like an interesting option! At very least, Black's position is active and dynamic. 11.dxc5 After 11...♗xc5 White should continue with (11...bxc5 12.a3 ♗a5 13.♗b5 ♖f8 14.♘a4 c4 15.b4 ♗b6 16.♗c3 but this position is in White's favour. Black has hanging pawns and d4-square is a perfect outpost for White's knight. Black's light-squared bishop is a bad piece, considering Black's pawn structure in the centre.) 12.♘b5 ♘c6 13.♘bd4 ♘xd4 14.exd4 ♗d6 15.♗g5± and White has slightly better chances.

If Black tries 10...♘bd7 in order to prevent 11.♘e5 it is met by a very strong move (11.♘b5 ♗xd2 12.♕xd2 ♖c8 13.♘xa7 ♖a8 14.♘b5 ♖c8 and Black is a pawn dawn in a very bad position, since there is no compensation for the pawn. White is much better.) 11...♘xe5∓

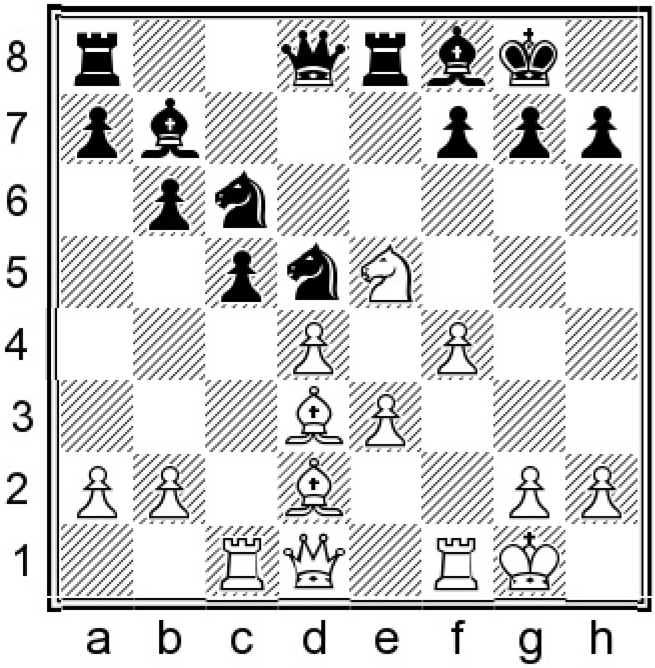
11.♘e5 c5 12.f4 ♘c6



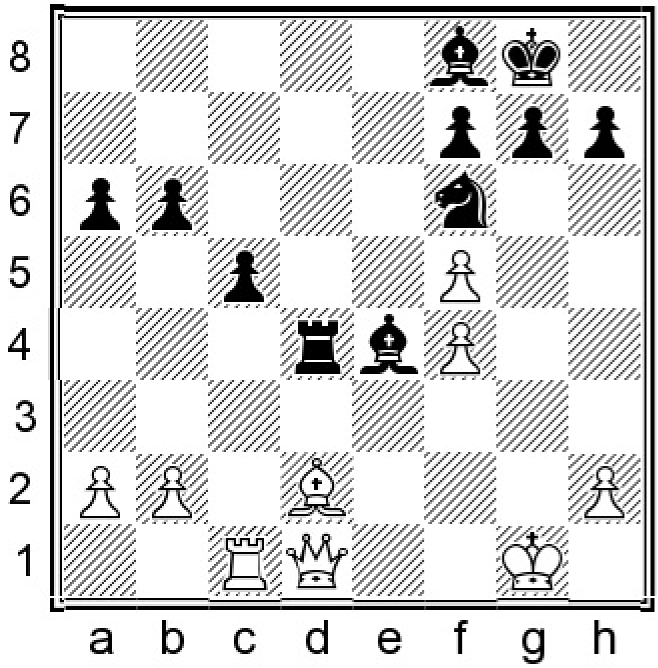
A very interesting position is on the board. It looks like White has a space advantage and a very strong knight on e5, but on the other hand, the outpost on e4 and White's potentially weak pawn on e3 are in Black's favour. Sometimes this type of positions can be uncomfortable to play as Black, because one can have a feeling that he is constantly defending his position. However, if White is not able to keep his knight in the centre, or if White is not able to execute the attack on the kingside, Black could be the one who ends up victorious, due to a better pawn structure and weakness of White's e-file.

13.♘e2 This position is well known.

There are several interesting variations to mention: 13.♘xd5 Unexpected move, initially considered to lead to a draw, untill some players with the black pieces didn't breathe a new life into it with active an queen sacrifice. 13...♕xd5 (13...♘xd5



This move immediately loses after 14.♗xh7+! ♔xh7 15.♕h5+ ♔g8 16.♕xf7+ ♔h7 17.♖f3 ♕h4 18.♕xb7 ♘xe5 19.fxe5+-) 14.♗c4 ♕xg2+ is an attractive way to avoid a draw. (14...♕d8 15.♘xf7 ♕c7 16.♘g5+ ♔h8 17.♘f7+ ♔g8 18.♘g5+ ♔h8 19.♘f7+ ♔g8 1/2 : 1/2 Koneru,Humpy 2586 - Girya,Olga 2469, chess.com (Internet-m/1-blitz) 2020) 15.♔xg2 ♘xe5+ 16.♔g1 ♘xc4 17.♖xc4 ♗a6 (In the following game we will see an interesting idea where Black kept his light-squared bishop believing that in the given position the bishop is worth more than rook, because quite often light squares are of great importance in positions where other side doesn't have light-squared bishop while his own pawns, in this particular case - central pawns, are on dark squares. Also, the h1-a8 diagonal is open, so White's king may get in danger, especially if, at some moment, one of the files d- or e- would get open. In that case, the main idea for Black would be to penetrate with rooks to the second rank, which would make the white king's position even more dangerous. 17...♖ad8 18.♕a4 a6 19.♖cc1 ♖e6 20.f5 ♖e4 21.♖f4 ♖xf4 22.exf4 ♖xd4 23.♕c2 ♗e4 24.♕d1



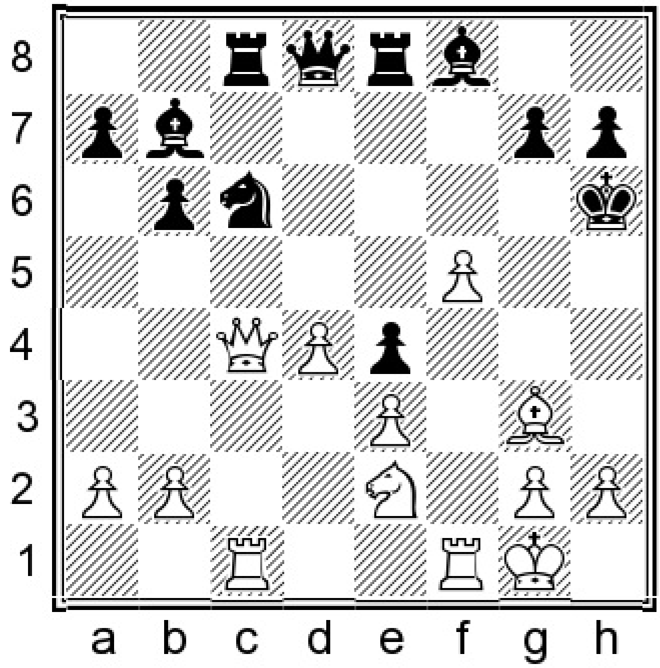
In this game white's position was awkward and Black had a very good compensation, which Budisavljevic eventually lost in 44th moves, Budisavljevic,Luka 2454 - Predke,Alexandr 2684, Srbija 2020) 18.♖c1 ♗xf1 19.♕xf1 ♖ad8 20.♕f3 cxd4 21.exd4 ♖xd4 22.♗c3± White is slightly better, but Karjakin managed to win in 142 moves, Bluebaum,Matthias 2644 - Karjakin, Sergey 2754, Moscow (blitz) 2019

13.♗b5 is a very logical move, but after 13...♖c8 14.♕a4 ♖e6 Black removes all threats, and in fact, reaches a very good position.

13.♗e1 With this move, White brings his dark-squared bishop to h4, from where the bishop seems active, but after 13...cxd4 14.♘b5 ♖c8 15.♘xc6 ♖xc6 16.♖xc6 ♗xc6 17.♘xd4 ♗d7 Black keeps slightly better position due to White's weakness on the semi-open e-file.

13...♖c8 14.♗e1 ♕d6

This was the right moment for 14...♘e4 15.♗xe4 dxe4 16.♘xf7 ♔xf7 17.♕b3+ c4 (17...♔g6 18.f5+ ♔h6 19.♗g3 ♗d6 20.f6 g6 21.♗f4+ ♗xf4 22.♖xf4±) 18.♕xc4+ ♔g6 19.f5+ ♔h6 20.♗g3



20...♘e5! leads to great complications and interesting game with equal chances. For example: 21.♕g8 ♗e7 22.♗f4+ ♗g5 23.♖xc8 ♗xc8 24.♗xg5+ ♕xg5 25.♕xe8 ♕xe3+ 26.♔h1 ♕xe2 27.♖a1 ♕xb2 28.♖f1 ♕e2∞

15.♗h4 c4?! This move is not a direct mistake, but it is a serious positional (strategic) mistake, because it leaves Black without counterplay in the centre.

However, 15...cxd4= secures equal position.

16.♗b1 ♗e7? This is already a grave mistake, after which Irina ends up in a very difficult position.

Much better was 16...b5 with the idea to prevent 17.♘c3

Also possible was 16...a6

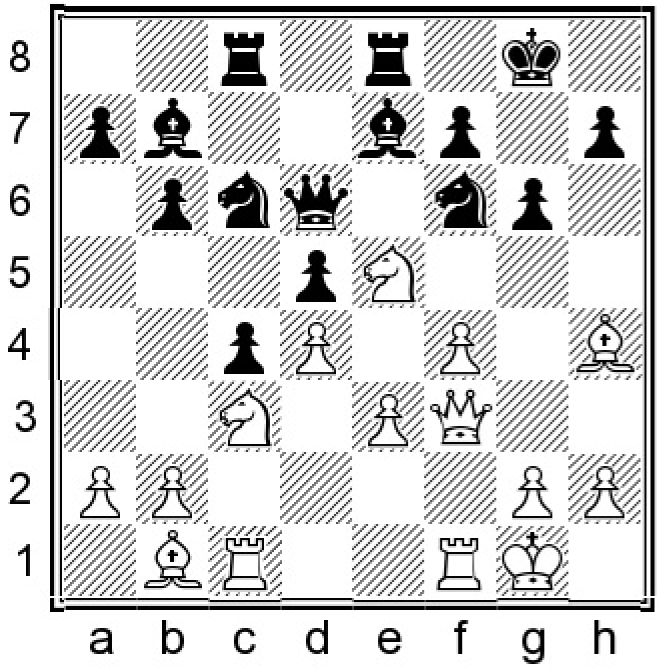
17.♘c3! With huge threat in view of 18. Bf6 Bf6 19.Bh7 Kh7 20.Qh5±.

17...g6

17...a6 18.♗xf6 ♗xf6 19.♗xh7+ ♔xh7 20.♕h5+ ♔g8 21.♕xf7+ ♔h7 22.♖f3+- with winning position for White.

17...♖f8 is another way to cover the f7-square but after 18.♕f3± White has a significant advantage.

18.♕f3



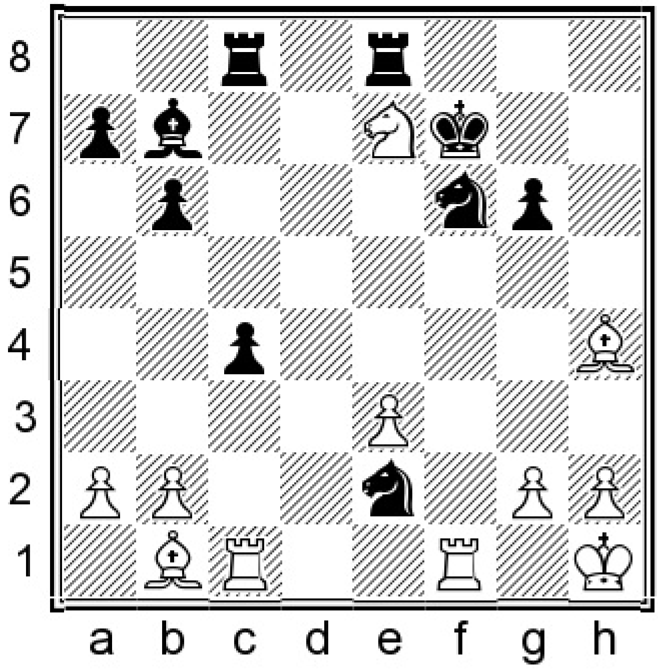
18...♘h5? Although the position is already difficult, this move leads directly to defeat.

It was necessary to try 18...♘e4 although Black's position remains very bad.

19.♘xf7! ♔xf7 20.f5! ♘f6 21.fxg6+ hxg6 22.♕xd5+ Gara was content winning a pawn.

She could have kept the attack alive with 22.♕g4 ♖g8 23.♖xf6+ ♗xf6 24.♖f1 ♘e7 25.♖xf6+ ♕xf6 26.♗xf6 ♔xf6 27.h4+- with a more attractive, but also less certain path to victory.

22...♕xd5 23.♘xd5 ♘xd4 24.♘xe7 ♘e2+ 25.♔h1



At this moment, we can see the equal number of pieces, but at the same time, many pieces are hanging on the board. It is Black's move, and still there is nothing Black can do, as the position is lost.

25...♖h8

25...♔xe7 26.♖ce1 ♖f8 27.♖xe2 ♔e6 28.♖ef2 ♘d7 29.♗xg6 ♗xg2+ 30.♔xg2 ♖g8 31.♖f6+ ♘xf6 32.♖xf6+ ♔e5 33.♗g5 c3 34.bxc3 ♖xc3 35.h4 ♖xe3 36.h5 ♖e2+ 37.♖f2+- With winning position for White.

25...♘xc1 26.♘xc8 ♖e6 27.♖xc1 ♗xc8 28.♖xc4+- This wins for White as well.

26.♗xg6+ ♔xe7 27.♗xf6+ ♔d6 28.♖cd1+ ♔c5 29.♖f5+ ♔b4 30.a3+ ♔b3 31.♖b5+ ♔a4 32.♖b4+ ♔a5 33.♗xh8 ♖xh8 34.♖xc4 ♘g3+ 35.♔g1 ♖g8 36.♖g4 ♘e2+ 37.♔f2 ♗a6 38.b4+ 1-0

B12
Lagno, Kateryna (2550) - Osmak, Iulija (2423)
Terme Catez, 2021

Kateryna Lagno, Terme Čatež 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 The Caro-Kann, one of the most popular openings among female chess players nowadays. Many strong players adopted Caro-Kann, including Valentina Gunina. I have to admit that I, myself, fell for it's charms and even neglected my beloved Sicilian, in favour of this very interesting opening.

3.e5 The Blockade variation is highly popular, with it's fashion changing a lot over the time, from aggressive lines with g4 and h4 in past, to the new approach that focuses on the centre and queenside.

3...♗f5 4.♘d2 I am not familiar with such an early jump to b3, at least not in recent practice, but the move order seem not to be of any importance here since we will quickly reach a well known position...

4...e6 5.♘b3 ♘d7 6.♘f3 Here we go. This position was seen many times in practice and it is still often played by the chess elite. It seems like this line simply never goes out of fashion and there is, definitely, a good reason for that. Black found a perfect place for his lights-squared bishop and has many good ways to finish development.

6...♗e4

Most frequently played is 6...♘e7 7.♗e2 h6 (with Black's plan to castle and finish development. 7...♘c8 8.O-O ♗e7 9.a4 O-O 10.a5 which is slightly more pleasant for White - Ajrapetian,Gevorg 2429 - Ovetchkin,Roman 2530, Russia 2010 - 108/198) 8.O-O g5 9.a4 ♗g7 10.a5 ♕c7 11.♗d2 f6 12.exf6 ♗xf6 13.♘e1± White is slightly better.

7.♗e2 c5 8.c3 ♘e7

Better was 8...cxd4 9.cxd4 ♗b4+ 10.♗d2 ♗xd2+ 11.♕xd2 ♘e7 and Black easily completes his development.

9.♘xc5 ♘xc5 10.dxc5 ♘c6 11.♗e3 ♗xf3 12.♗xf3 ♘xe5 13.♗e2 It might look like Black is close to equality and solving all his problems, but the fact that he exchanged one of his side pawns for one of the white central pawns, doesn't make it easy for him. White's position, with his pair of bishops, secures him a small advantage.

13...♗e7 14.♗b5+ With the idea of giving away the advantage of the bishop pair, together with White's hopes for advantage in this position.

14...♘c6 15.O-O O-O 16.♕e2 ♕c7 17.♖ad1 ♖ad8 18.f4 ♗f6 19.♗xc6 bxc6 20.♗d4 ♕e7 It is hard to find any logic behind this move. Black should have played more actively.

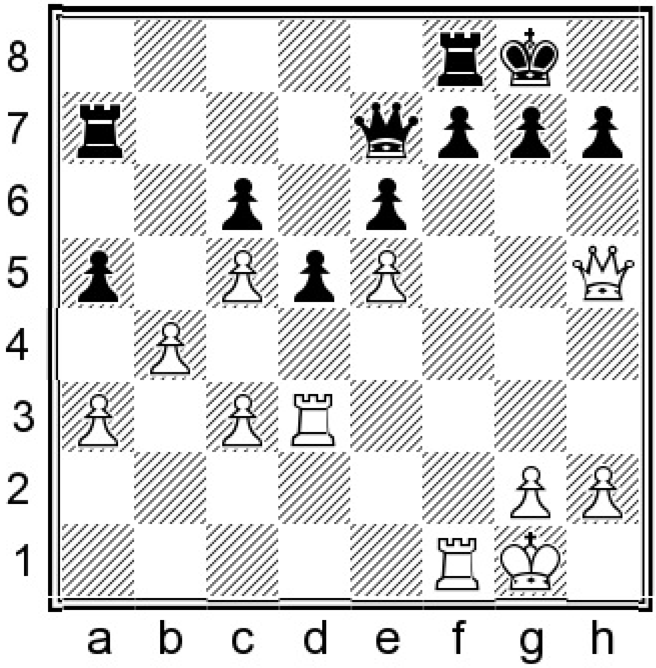
20...♗xd4+ 21.cxd4 (21.♖xd4 allows counterplay over the e-file. 21...a5 22.a3 ♖fe8 23.b4 e5 24.fxe5 ♖xe5 25.♕a6 axb4 26.cxb4 ♖de8 27.♖df4 ♖e1⇄) 21...♖b8 22.b3 a5 23.♖d3 a4⇄ with counterplay.

21.b4 ♖b8 Not precise.

Correct was 21...a5 22.♗e5 ♗xe5 23.fxe5 axb4 24.cxb4 ♖a8 25.♖f3 ♖a4 26.a3 ♖fa8 27.♖dd3 ♕g5= with few tempi more and equal position.

22.♗e5 ♗xe5 23.fxe5 a5 24.a3 ♖a8 25.♖d3 ♖a7 White is more active and it is difficult to find good moves for Black, especially giving the fact that the battlefield shifts to the kingside, with almost all the white pieces being there already.

26.♕h5



26...f5? Decisive mistake that weakens Black's king and loses the game.

26...axb4 27.cxb4 ♖fa8=

27.exf6! gxf6 28.♖g3+ ♔h8 29.♕h6 ♕f7?

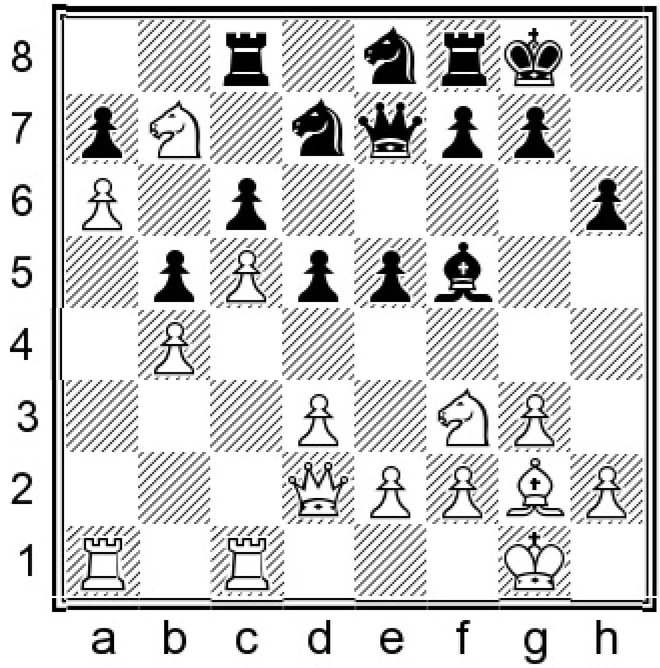
The only practical chance was 29...♕d8 30.♖e3 e5 31.♖xe5 d4 32.c4 d3 33.♖e4 axb4 34.axb4 d2 35.♖d1 f5 36.♖e2 ♖a1 37.♕xf8+ ♕xf8 38.♖xa1 ♕d8 39.♖d1 ♕d4+ 40.♔h1 ♕xc4 41.♖exd2 ♕xb4 42.♖f2 ♕xc5 43.♖df1 h6 44.♖xf5± but again, two rooks should win against queen.

30.♖g6 f5 31.♖xe6 axb4 32.axb4 ♖a2 33.♖xc6 ♖g8 34.g3 ♖e8 35.♖f6 ♕g7 36.♕xg7+ ♔xg7 37.♖6xf5 ♖c2 38.♖1f2 ♖xc3 39.♖xd5 ♖b3 40.♖d4 ♖e1+ 41.♔g2 1-0

Now we shall take a look at the game played in the 8th round match Srbija - Oesterreich. White stands clearly better and needs to try something more concrete. The b7-knight is a bit stranded, but if the d-file opens up that knight will have a significant role. Therefore, White should open the play in the centre. Teodora achieves that goal in exceptional style, making the remainder of the game very enjoyable to follow.

Teodora Injac, Terme Čatež 2021

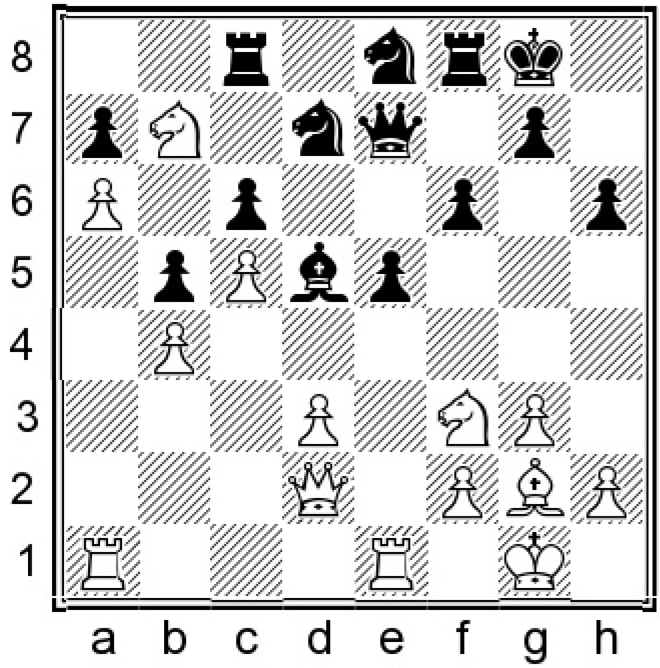
Injac, Teodora (2387) - Hapala, Elisabeth (2139)
Terme Catez, 2021



22.e4! ♗e6

Black does not improve her chances after 22...dxe4 23.♘h4 ♗e6 24.dxe4+- and Black is completely hopeless in view of White's domination on the d-file combined with Nf5 and Nd6 threats.

23.exd5 ♗xd5 24.♖e1 f6



25.♘h4! Astounding move with many excellent ideas! First, White may play Nf5 with the idea of controlling the important d6, g7 squares, as well as the h6-pawn. Also, Black must at all times be cautious about possible knight sacrifices on the kingside. On top of that the bishop might be open and Black would have hard time closing the centre after the d4 pawn push.

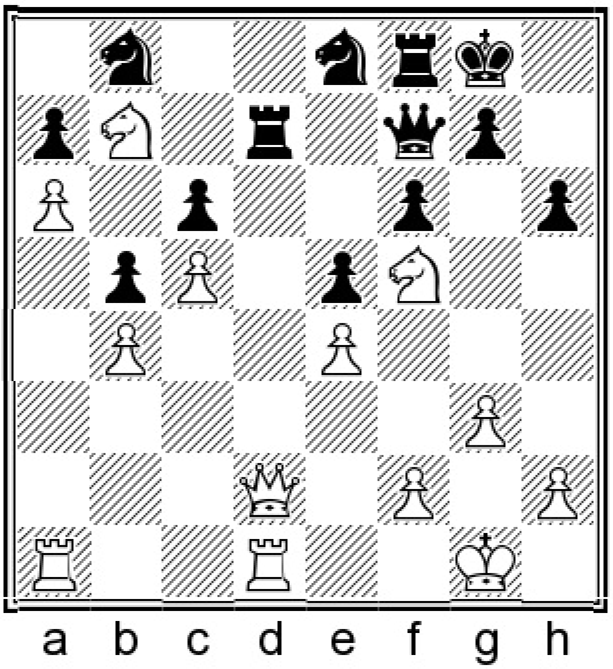
25...♕f7 26.♗e4! Excellent move. The idea behind it is to open the d-file, after improving the position of the white light-square bishop and provoking Black to capture on e4 in view of highly unpleasant threats caused by the white knight.

26...♗xe4 27.dxe4 As we can notice Black is extremely passive. White has a spatial advantage, the position of the black knights is bad (it would be much better if at least one of the knights is on e6 from where it would control the d4-square and maybe manage to temporarily block the d-file). If White plays precisely Black will not be able to improve the position of his pieces or to activate the knights, at least not without serious consequences.

27...♘b8 28.♘f5 ♖c7

Black should not go for 28...♘xa6 29.♘fd6 ♘xd6 30.♘xd6 ♕d7 31.♖xa6+- losing the piece.

29.♖ed1 ♖d7



30.♕e2 Now, the Qg4 motif becomes possible as well, with the attack on the black king and break along the d-file.

30...♖xd1+ 31.♖xd1 ♘c7

On 31...♕b3 32.♖d8 ♘xa6 33.♕g4 ♘ac7 34.♘xh6+ ♔h7 35.♘f5 ♕e6 36.♕h5+ ♔g8 37.♘bd6 ♘xd6 38.♘h6+ ♔h7 39.♘f7+ ♔g8 40.♕h8+ ♔xf7 41.♕xf8+ ♔g6 42.cxd6+- winning.

32.♘d8 ♕b3 33.♕g4 ♘e8 34.♘xh6+ ♔h7 35.♘f5 g6

If 35...♕xb4 followed by 36.♕h5+ ♔g8 37.♘e7#

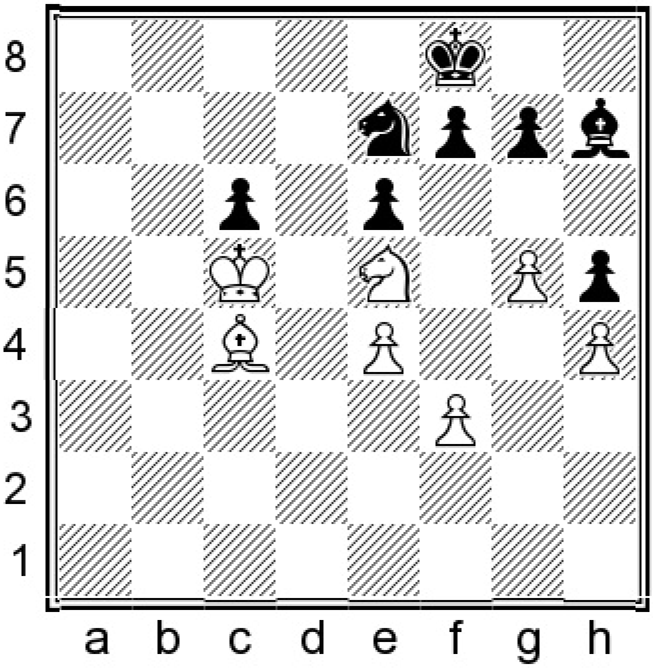
36.♘e7

36.♘e7 In case of 36...♖g8 follows 37.♘e6 with a beautiful mating attack along the h-file. 37...♕xe6

38.♕xe6 ♖f8 39.♕g4 ♖g8 40.♖d8 f5 41.♕h4+ ♔g7 42.♘xg8 f4 43.♕e7+ ♔h8 44.♘f6 fxg3 45.♖xe8#

1-0

Cyfka, Karina (2416) - Gunina, Valentina (2480)
Terme Catez, 2021



Karina Cyfka, Terme Čatež 2021

58...♔e8 The position on the board from the game played in the last round can be assessed as equal. Black has an extra pawn, but White can restore material balance at any time. Certainly, it is White who plays for a win, considering the active king and black pawns placed on light squares. The black bishop is very passive compared to his white counterpart, and the h5-pawn is fixed on the light square. Despite all of that, Black still had the opportunity to secure a draw. But, as often happens in practice, especially in difficult positions after a long game, inaccuracies occur and the game is lost. That is exactly what happened here.

59.♔d6 ♗g8 60.♗e2 ♗h7 61.♗d1 f6 62.gxf6 gxf6 63.♘d7

White wisely avoids exchanges, as after 63.♘xc6 ♘xc6 64.♔xc6 ♔e7 we are very close to a draw.

63...♔f7 64.♗b3 ♘c8+

This knight check in not a mistake, but after 64...♘g6 Black forces a draw 65.♗xe6+ ♔g7 66.♗f5

♘xh4 67.♗xh7 ♔xh7 68.♘xf6+ ♔g6=

65.♔xc6 ♔e7 66.♘c5 ♘a7+

Black avoids 66...♗g8 obviously being afraid of 67.♘b7 - however, after 67...♔f8 68.♔d7 ♘e7 69.♗xe6 ♘g6 70.♗xg8 ♔xg8 71.♔e6 ♘xh4 72.♔xf6 ♘xf3= with a draw.

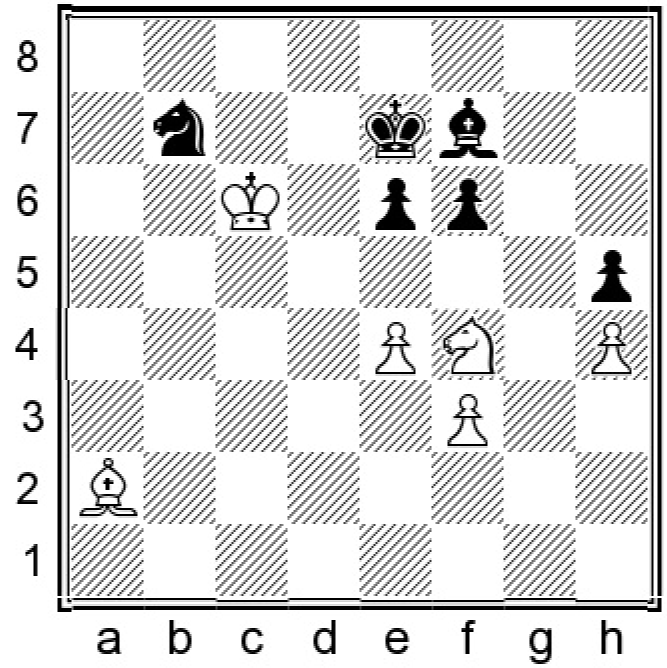
67.♔b6

In case of 67.♔b7 ♘b5 68.♘xe6 ♗g8 69.♘c5 ♗xb3 70.♘xb3 ♘d6+ 71.♔c6 ♘c4 72.♘d4 ♘e5+ 73.♔d5 ♔f7= it is not apparent how White can strengthen her position.

67...♘c8+ 68.♔c7 ♘d6 69.♔c6

On 69.♗xe6 follows 69...♘b5+ 70.♔b6 ♘d4 71.♗b3 ♘xf3 72.♗d1 ♘xh4= with a draw.

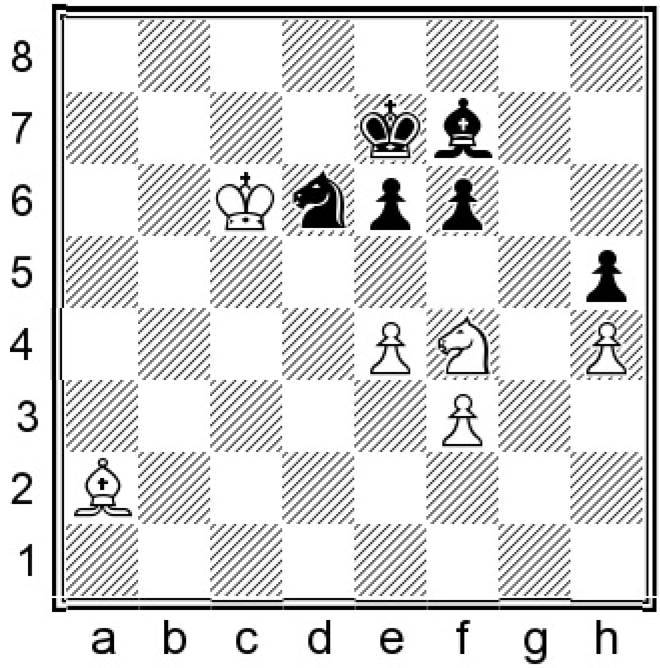
69...♗g8 70.♘d3 ♗f7 71.♘f4 ♗e8+ 72.♔c5 ♗f7 73.♗a2 ♘b7+ 74.♔c6



74...♘d6??

It happens very often that long and tiresome struggle leads to the crucial mistake.

A draw would be certain after 74...e5 75.♘d5+ ♗xd5+ 76.exd5 ♘d6 77.♗b1 f5= and 74...♘d8+ 75.♔c7 ♗e8 76.♗b3 ♗f7 77.♗a4 e5 78.♘d5+ ♗xd5 79.exd5 ♘f7 80.♗d1 ♘d6 81.♗e2 f5=



75.♗xe6!+- A small tactical nuance leads Black to completely hopeless position. The rest is a pure matter of technique.

75...♗xe6 76.♘g6+ ♔f7 77.♔xd6 ♗b3 78.♘e7 ♗c2 79.♘f5 ♗d3 80.♘g3 ♔g6 81.♔d5 ♗c2 82.f4 ♗d1 83.♔e6 ♗b3+ 84.♔e7 ♗d1 85.f5+ ♔g7 86.e5 1-0

OLD WINE IN NEW BOTTLES

Marin

EVERY NEW IDEA IS ACTUALLY A LONG FORGOTTEN ONE

There is an almost unanimous opinion that, in chess as in other fields, the beginning of the third Millennium features an explosion of information that is without precedent.

To me, this seems a bit exaggerated. I remember that as a kid I found similar statements in many of the opening monographies of the ’80s, the ’70s and even of the ’50s. Believe it or not, a similar informatics explosion is described in the introduction of the first edition of the *Bilguer’s Handbuch*, the Chess Encyclopaedia of the 19th century.

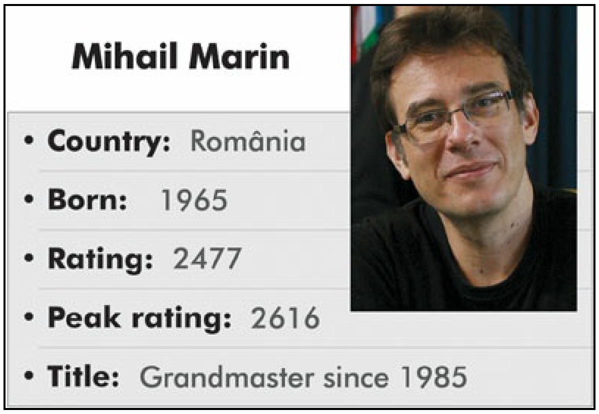
There is nothing really new in life or in chess. In every game, there comes a moment when a novelty inevitably pops up, but one cannot be sure that the idea behind it has not been played before.

In this column, I will try to highlight the way in which certain strategic and tactical ideas have maintained their actuality over the decades and sometimes centuries. I invite you to re-discover with me some long forgotten chess from the past.

Mihail Marin

Jubilee Edition Inspired by MR. Fire on Board

The Chess Informant has reached its jubiliary 150th edition. 55 years ago, when the first volume of this long series was released, very few could predict that after less than a decade the Informant would become a "periodical opening bible" for the tournament player. In the beginning, the commentaries were very summary, many times including only move evaluations without any variation at all.



Mihail Marin

- **Country:** România
- **Born:** 1965
- **Rating:** 2477
- **Peak rating:** 2616
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 1985

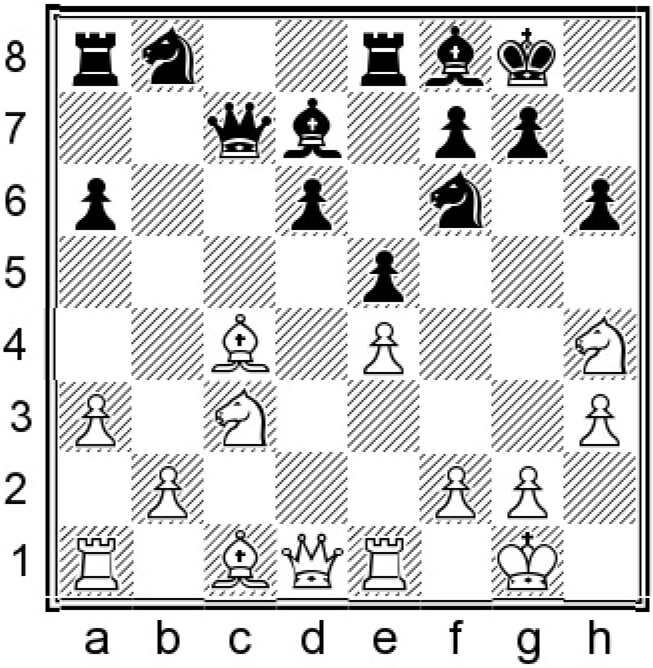
For nostalgic purposes, I will centre this article precisely on the first Informant issue. All the themes examined here will have a correspondent in that first book.

Alexei Shirov, the author of the "Fire on board" books seems to be passing through a second creative youth. I do not refer that much to his recent results, but mainly of the style displayed in his wins, opening the question whether he intends to provide new material for a third volume of his books.

C92
Shirov, Alexei (2673) - Erdos, Viktor (2615)
Terme Catez, 2021

Alexei Shirov, Douglas 2019; Photo by John Saunders

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗e7 6.♖e1 b5 7.♗b3 d6 8.c3 O-O 9.h3 ♖e8 10.d4 ♗b7 11.♘g5 ♖f8 12.♘f3 ♖e8 13.a3 h6 14.♗a2 ♗f8 15.d5 ♘b8 16.c4 c6 17.♘c3 bxc4 18.dxc6 ♗xc6 19.♗xc4 ♕c7 20.♘h4 ♗d7



One brief glance at the position is enough to reveal that something has gone wrong for Black in the opening. His queen's knight, still undeveloped, is far from the critical square on d5. The bishop on c1 is undeveloped, too, but it is targeting the enemy king's residence already.

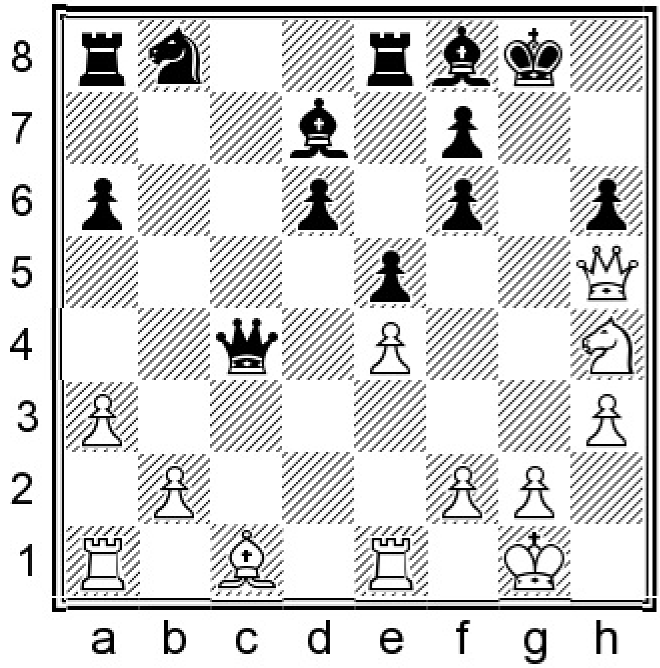
21.♘d5!! A fantastic sacrifice, played after 20 minutes of thought. This is one of the moments when one's style and taste are revealed. If this was the only way to reach an advantage, then positional and tactical players should ought to choose it. However, White had more neutral and completely risk-free continuations.

21.♗a2 ♗e6 22.♘f5 ♘bd7 23.♘e3± followed by the occupation of the square on d5. This latter line may be less convincing because after the exchange on a2, the rook will have to spend a tempo for returning into play, alowing Black to come up with dynamic resources.

21.♕d3!? ♗e6 22.♗xe6 fxe6 23.♘g6 ♘bd7 24.♗e3± Black will soon face certain problems with his pawn on d6.

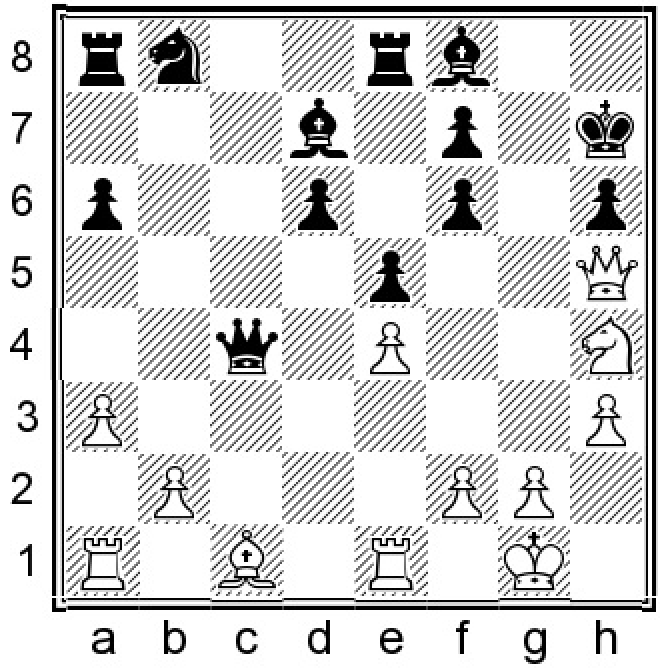
21...♕xc4 Black took his time before accepting the sacrifice, but tolerating the knight on d5 is not an appealing alternative.

22.♘xf6+ gxf6 23.♕h5 White does not have any pawns for the sacrificed piece, but Shirov correctly evaluated that his attack would reach unbearable strength soon. The knight on b8 is undeveloped, still, while the bishop on c1 is doing its job already.



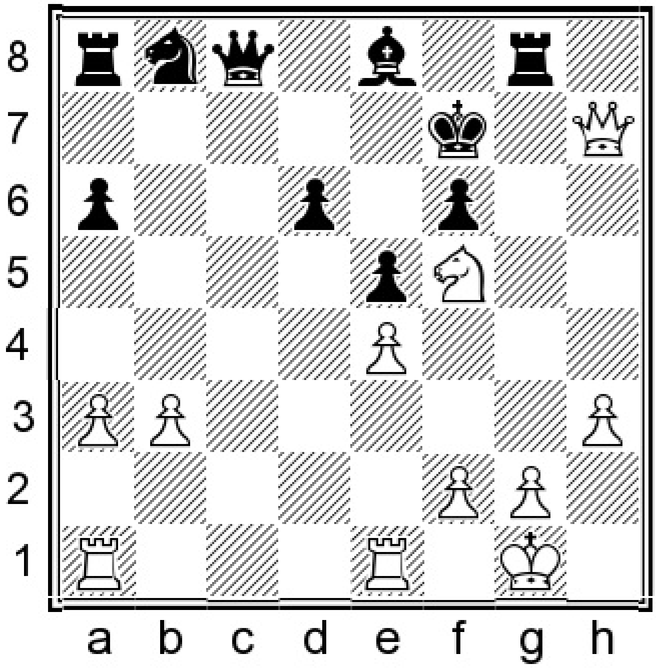
23...f5 Erdos played this instantly.

It is hard to say what did he fear after 23...♔h7, defending the pawn, but his intuition was right: White is winning in more than one way.



24.b3!! (Mathematically, the most accurate. White needs to drive the queen away from the a2-g8 diagonal. I already hear voices claiming that this is a computer move. We will see later that deflecting the queen away from the right path with b3 was used long before the computers. 24.♗d2, with the same idea, but in a slower mode, should also win, as Black cannot coordinate his forces in time.; It is worth mentioning that it is too early to give up the bishop with 24.♗xh6 ♗xh6 25.b3 ♕c8! Overdefending f5. 26.♕xf7+ ♗g7 27.♘f5 ♗xf5 28.exf5 ♕xf5 29.♕xe8 ♕d7 and Black can hope.)

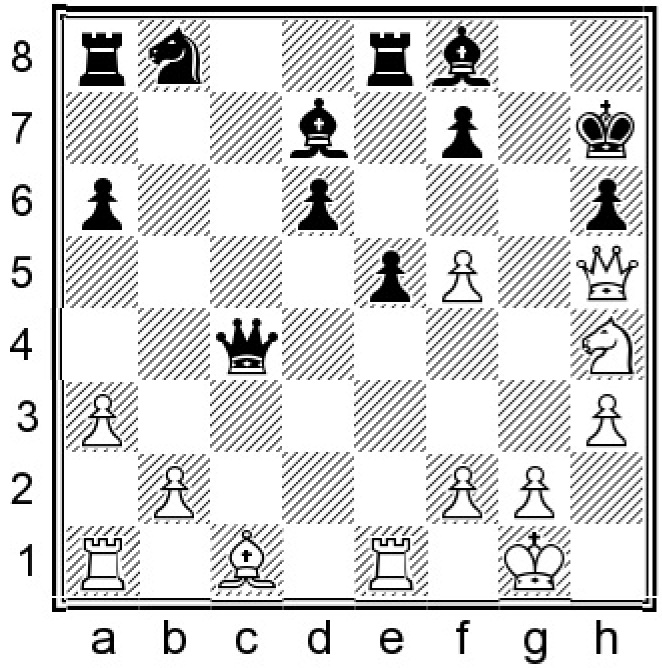
24...♕xb3 (One important point is that the e6-square is denied to the queen: 24...♕e6 25.♘f5+-; 24...♕c8 does not work with the white bishop on board: 25.♕xf7+ ♗g7 26.♗xh6! ♖g8 27.♕g6+ ♔h8 28.♕h5 ♗e8 (28...♕e8 29.♘g6+ ♔h7 30.♗e3+ mates next.) 29.♗xg7+ ♔xg7 30.♘f5+ ♔f8 31.♕h6+ ♔f7 32.♕h7+



followed by Qe7) 25.♗xh6! Now is a good moment for the second (pseudo) sacrifice, since White needs to connect the rooks. 25...♗xh6 26.♖eb1 ♕a4 27.♖b4 Gaining another important tempo. 27...♕c6 28.♕xf7+ ♗g7 (28...♔h8 29.♘g6#) 29.♘f5 ♗xf5 (29...♖g8 30.♕h5+ ♗h6 31.♕xh6#) 30.exf5 Suddenly, the rook threatens to mate in one. 30...e4 31.♖b7 ♖g8 32.♕h5#

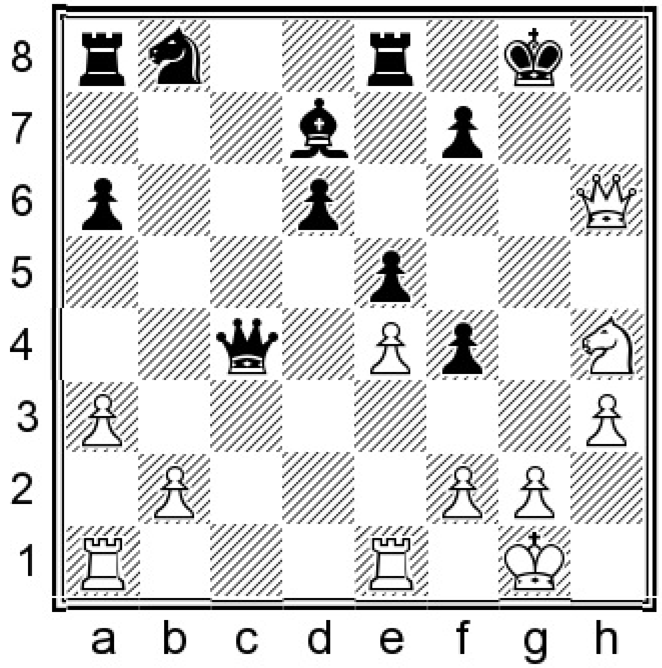
24.♗xh6?! This move order offers Black the possibility to continue struggling.

24.exf5 was stronger, since Black cannot defend on h7 under good circumstances: 24...♔h7



25.♖e4!! (The familiar 25.b3 also wins.) 25...♕xe4 (25...♕d5 26.♖g4 followed by Nf3 before or after Bh6) 26.♕xf7+ ♗g7 (26...♔h8 27.♘g6#) 27.♗xh6! ♖g8 28.♕g6+ ♔h8 29.♕h5 ♗e8 30.♘g6+ ♗xg6 31.fxg6 ♖e8 32.♗g5+ ♔g8 33.♕h7+ ♔f8 34.♗h6+-

24...♗xh6 25.♕xh6 f4



26.♘f5?! Once again an inaccurate move order, which this time throws away most of the advantage.

26.♕g5+! ♔f8 27.♕f6 Threatening to mate in two with Ng6. 27...♔g8 28.♘f5! ♗xf5 29.exf5± The difference is that Black does not have ...f6 anymore.

26...♗xf5 27.exf5 f6!

27...♘d7 28.♖ac1 ♕b5 29.♖ed1→

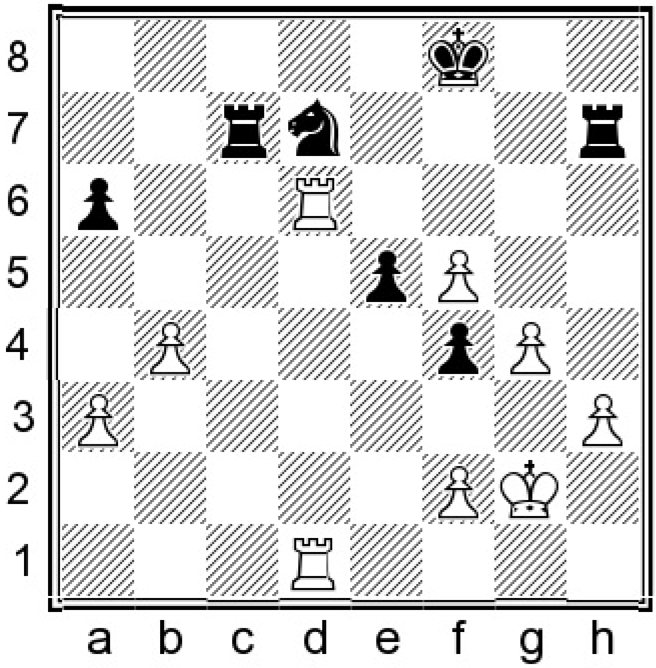
28.♕g6+ ♔f8 29.♕xf6+ ♕f7 30.♕xd6+ ♕e7 31.♖ad1 White has excellent compensation for the piece, his position may be preferable, but he is by no means winning yet.

31...♕xd6 32.♖xd6 ♖a7 33.g4 ♖h7?

Black should have slowed down the enemy pawns with 33...fxg3!

34.♔g2 ♘d7 35.b4! Restricting the knight.

35...♖c8 36.♖ed1 ♖c7



White is dominating and can start advancing his connected pawns. **37.g5 e4 38.g6 ♖g7 39.h4 ♘e5 40.h5 ♘d3 41.h6 ♖gd7 42.♖xd7 ♖xd7 43.h7 ♔g7 44.f6+ ♔h8 45.♖h1 f3+ 46.♔g3 1-0**

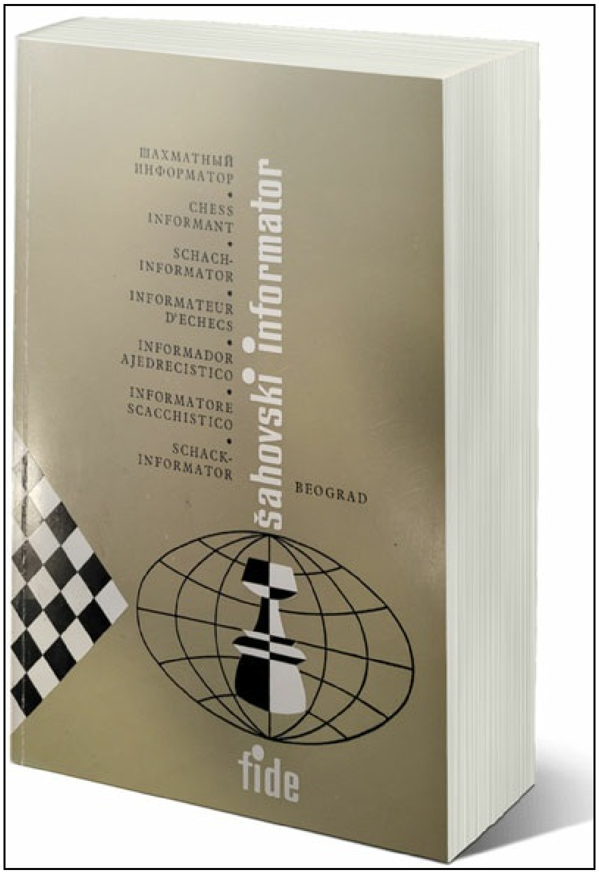
Not a perfect game, but nonetheless a brilliant one. Shirov's decision to sacrifice the piece was entirely correct. With hindsight, it was the strongest continuation.

Shirov made his first top class appearence at the Manila 1990 Interzonal Tournament. Coincidence made that this was the last Interzonal of another brilliant tactician from Riga, Mihail Tal.

In the first Informant, there are several games by Tal, but his overall score is not as impressive as one might expect: five wins, three losses and one draw. Moreover, most of his opponents were supposedly less strong than him.

There is one interesting game, though, which bears some mechanical similarity with Shirov's.

B30
Tal, Mihail - Ciric, Dragoljub M
Sarajevo 1/255, 1966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INFORMADOR AJEDRECISTICO
INFORMATORE SCACCHISTICO
SCHACK-INFORMATOR
šahovski informator
BEOGRAD
fide

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♕b6 4.♘c3 e6 5.O-O ♘d4 6.♗a4! ♕a5? It is obvious that Black is messing too much around with the time.

7.a3! b5 8.b4! ♕b6

8...cxb4 9.axb4 ♕b6 10.♘xd4 bxa4 11.♘f3±;

8...♘xf3+ 9.♕xf3 cxb4 10.axb4 ♗xb4 11.♘xb5± Marin,Mihail

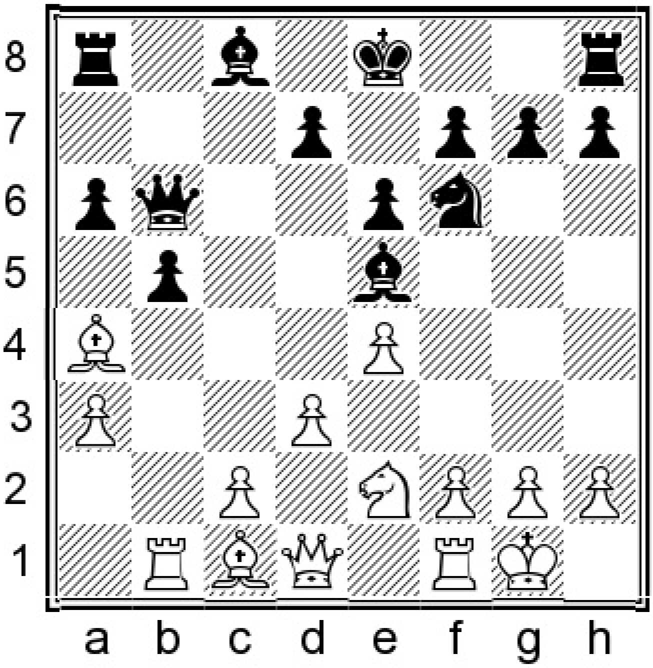
9.bxc5 ♗xc5 10.♖b1

10.♘xd4! ♗xd4 11.♖b1 Marin,Mihail

10...a6

10...♘xf3+! 11.♕xf3 a6∞ Marin,Mihail

11.♘xd4 ♗xd4 12.♘e2 ♘f6 13.d3 ♗e5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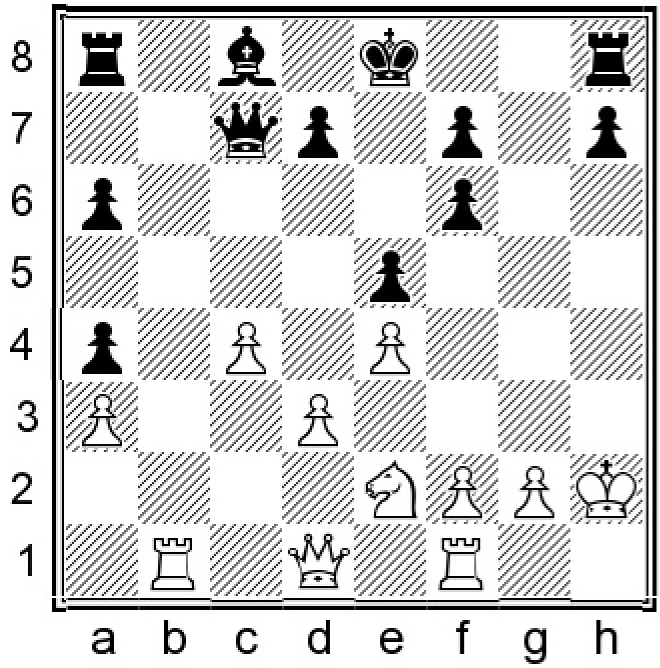
14.c4 It may seem that Tal intended to tempt his opponent to play his next move.

14.d4 ♗b8 15.e5± Marin,Mihail

14...♗xh2+? This allows White to reach a winning setup.

14...♕c7 was a better way to unpin the b-pawn. 15.f4 (15.♗c2 ♗xh2+ 16.♔h1 ♗d6 17.d4 ♗e7 18.e5 ♘g4 19.f3 ♘h6±) 15...♗d6 16.♗c2 ♗e7 17.e5 ♘g4 18.d4 ♗b7± In both cases, Black is not without counterplay.

15.♔xh2 ♕c7+ 16.♗f4 e5 17.♗g5 bxa4 18.♗xf6± gxf6 Now is the moment when we can see some vague similarity with the previous game. Black's structure is almost identical to that of Erdos, but this time Tal did not have to sacrifice anything (yet).

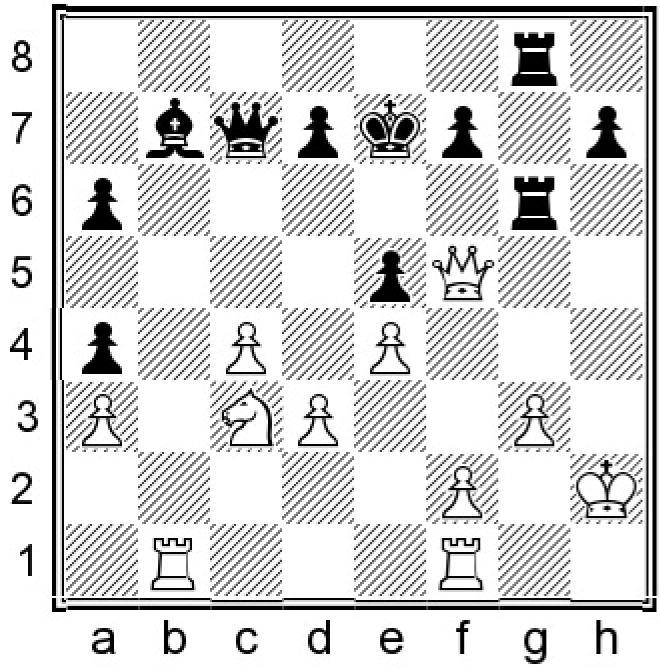


19.♘c3 ♗b7 20.♕f3 ♖g8

20...♔e7 21.♖xb7 ♕xb7 22.♘d5+ leads to similar play as in the game.

21.♕xf6 ♖g6 22.♕f5 ♔e7 23.g3 ♖ag8

23...♗c6 24.♘d5+ ♗xd5 25.exd5+- Marin,Mihail



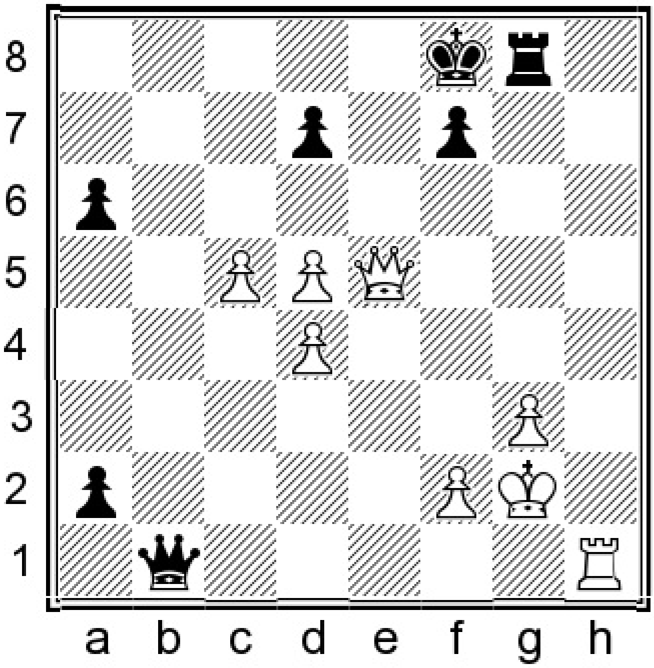
24.♖xb7!? ♕xb7 25.♖b1 ♕c8 26.♕xe5+ ♖e6 27.♘d5+ ♔f8 28.♕f4 ♔g7 29.♔g2 ♕c5 30.♖h1!

30.♖b7 ♕d6 31.♕f3 ♖c8 32.d4 ♖xc4 33.♘e3+- Marin,Mihail

30...♕xa3 31.♕g5+ ♔f8 32.♕e3 ♕d6 White is obviously winning, but Black still has some feeble hopes connected with his passed a-pawn.

33.♖xh7 a3 34.♖h1 ♖e5 35.d4 ♖xd5 Black could not tolerate this knight any longer.

36.exd5 ♕b4 37.c5 a2 38.♕e5 ♕b1 It may seem that Black has got some chances, as his pawn will inevitably promote. While Tal played well in the previous phase, the final attack (probably planned in advance) is typical for his style.



39.♖h8!! a1=Q

39...♖xh8 40.♕xh8+ ♔e7 41.d6+ ♔e6 42.♕e5#

40.♕d6+

40.♕d6+ ♔g7 41.♕h6#

1-0

Time has come to prove that the b3 push mentioned in some lines in the Shirov's game is not necessarily a computer move. We will start with a game published in the first Informant, of course.

C88
Puc, Stojan - Damjanovic, Mato
Jugoslavija 1/202, 1966

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗e7 6.♖e1 b5 7.♗b3 O-O 8.♘c3 d6 9.♘d5 ♘a5 10.d4 ♘xb3 11.axb3 ♘xd5 12.exd5 f6 13.h3 ♖e8 14.c4 ♖b8

14...♗d7

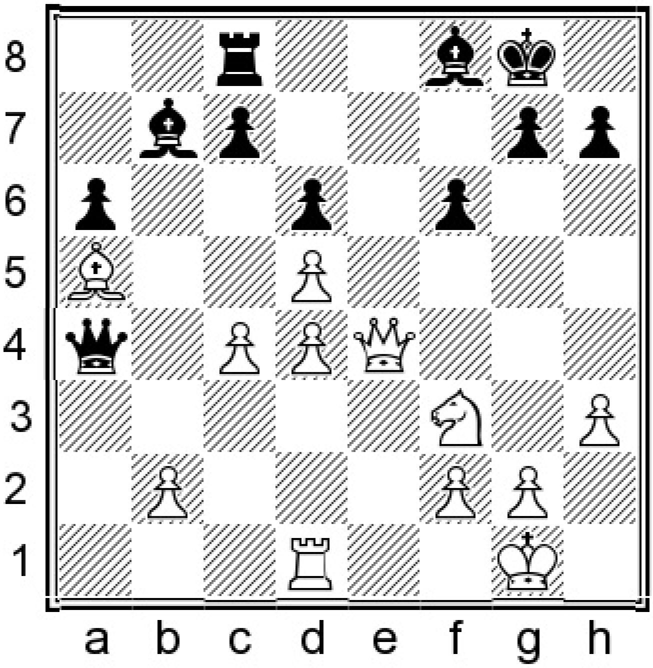
15.♕e2 ♗b7?! 16.♗d2

16.cxb5 axb5 (16...♗xd5 17.bxa6 ♖xb3 18.♗e3∞) 17.♕xb5 ♗a8 18.♕c4∞

16...♕d7 17.♗a5 ♗f8 18.♕d3 ♖bc8 19.♖ad1 bxc4 20.bxc4 e4?

20...c6∓

21.♖xe4! ♖xe4 22.♕xe4 ♕a4 White is a pawn up, but his rook, bishop and pawn on c4 are attacked. It is obvious that he needs to find attacking ideas in order to avoid the worst of it. The only question is how?



23.b3!!

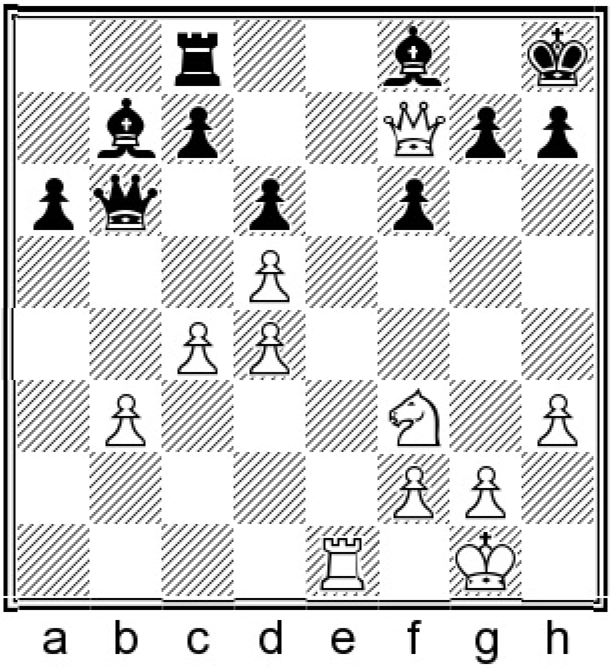
23.♖e1 ♕xc4 24.♕e6+ ♔h8∓ Due to the weak pawn on d5, White does not have realistic attacking chances. Depending on the case, Black can take it with either the queen or the bishop, bringing new forces to the defence.

23.♕e6+ ♔h8 24.b3 should transpose to the game, since 24...♕xb3 25.♖c1 maintains the pawn on c4 and a clear domination.

23...♕xa5□ The only move.

23...♕xb3? 24.♖b1 ♕a4 25.♖xb7 ♕xa5 26.♕e6+ ♔h8 27.♕xc8+- Marin,Mihail

24.♕e6+ ♔h8 25.♕f7= ♕b6 26.♖e1 As a result of the piece sacrifice, Black's queen is far from the main theatre of operations. In order to save the game, he needs to plan his actions accurately.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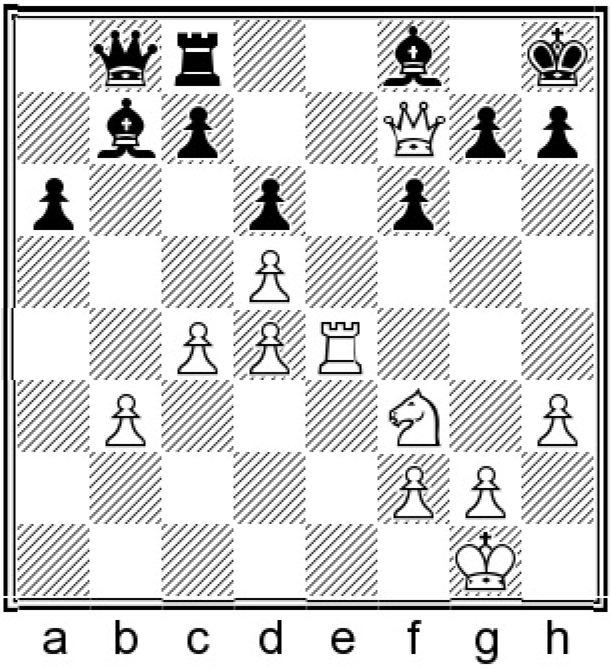
26...♕a7??

26...♕xb3! 27.♖e8 ♕b1+ 28.♔h2 ♖xe8 29.♕xe8 ♔g8 30.♕e6+ ♔h8 31.♕f7 h6 (31...♗xd5! Δ Qb8= Marin,Mihail) 32.♕xf8+ ♔h7 33.♕b8 ♕b6= (33...a5 34.♕xc7 a4 Marin,Mihail) 34.♕e8 This actually yields White a decisive attack. 34...♕b1 35.♘h4 a5 36.♕e6 ♕d3 37.♕g4 a4 (37...♕xc4 38.♕g6+ ♔g8 39.♘f5+-) 38.♘f5 g6 39.♘h4+- with the decisive threat of Qd7

27.♖e4! ♕b8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28.♘h4! Threatening Ng6!

28...g5

28...h6 29.♘f5 c6 30.♘xh6+- gxh6 31.♖g4

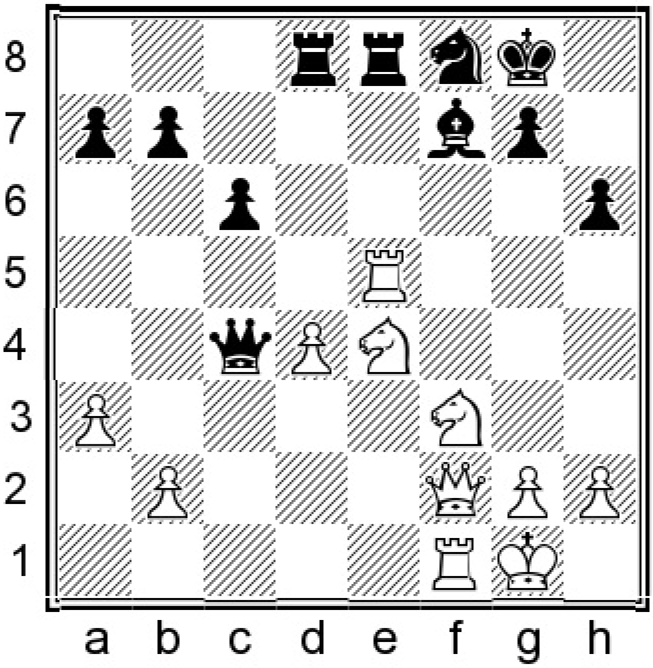
29.♘f5 Apart from the obvious Qf6, White also threatens Re7. **1-0**

In fact, we can find an even earlier and maybe more similar situation in which the queen is driven away from the a2-g8 diagonal with the help of the b-pawn. In fact, the same as in Shirov's game, the f7-square is really important.

D36
Marshall, Frank James - Rubinstein, Akiba
Moscow, 1925

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.♗g5 ♘bd7 5.e3 ♗e7 6.♘f3 O-O 7.cxd5 exd5 8.♗d3 ♖e8 9.O-O c6 10.♕c2 ♘f8 11.♖ae1 ♘e4 12.♗xe7 ♕xe7 13.♗xe4 dxe4 14.♘d2 f5 15.f3 exf3 16.♘xf3 ♗e6 17.e4 fxe4 18.♖xe4 ♖ad8 19.♖e5 h6 20.♘e4 ♕b4 21.a3 ♕c4 22.♕f2 ♗f7?

Both sides seem to be well regrouped, but Marshall noticed that Black's queen is in fact vulnerable.



23.b3!

23.♘c5, threatening b3 runs into 23...♕a2 and if 24.♘xb7, then 24...♖b8

23...♕xb3

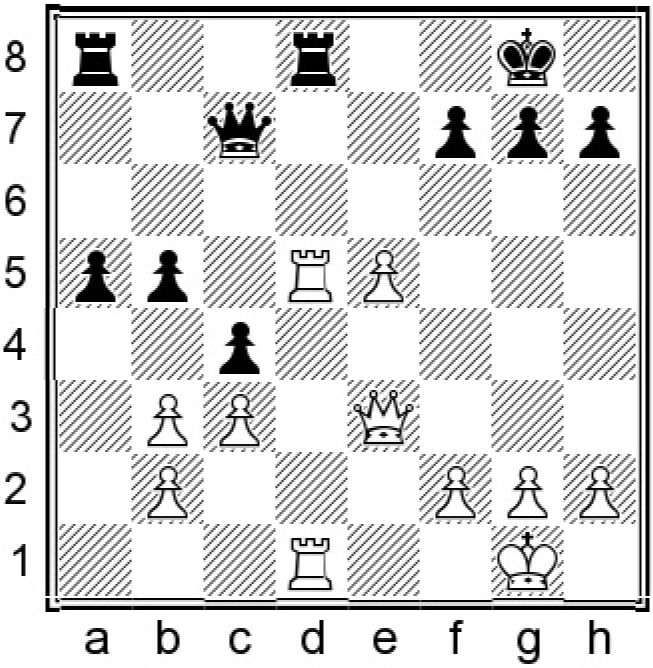
If the queen leaves the bishop undefended with 23...♕a6 White wins with 24.♖xe8! ♗xe8 (24...♖xe8 25.♘e5 ♗d5 26.♘d6 ♖d8 27.♘f5+- Marshall,Frank James) 25.♘e5 ♕xa3 (25...♘e6 26.♘f6+! gxf6 27.♕xf6 Marshall,Frank James) 26.♘f7 ♗xf7 (26...♖a8 27.♘xh6+ gxh6 28.♘f6++- wins.) 27.♕xf7+ ♔h8 28.♘f6 ♘h7 29.♘e8+-

24.♘fd2 ♕a2 25.♘c3 The bishop on f7 is lost. **1-0**

In the first Informant, there are two games in which White wins in almost the same amusing way, helped by Black's oblivion of a famous combination.

C81
Minic, Dragoljub - Honfi, Karoly
Vrnjacka Banja 1/193, 1966

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♘xe4 6.d4 b5 7.♗b3 d5 8.dxe5 ♗e6 9.♕e2 ♗c5 10.♗e3 O-O 11.♖d1 ♘a5 12.♘bd2 ♗xe3 13.♕xe3 ♘xd2 14.♖xd2 c6 15.c3 ♕c7 16.♘d4 c5? 17.♘e2 ♖fd8 18.♖ad1± ♘xb3 19.axb3 a5? 20.♘f4 c4 21.♘xd5 ♗xd5 22.♖xd5



22...cxb3??

22...♖xd5! 23.♖xd5 cxb3 Marin, Mihail

23.♕a7!! The queen is obviously taboo because of the back rank mate.

23.♕a7 ♖xd5 does not save. White does not have to take the queen, when he would get mated himself, but can do better with 24.♕xa8+, not only winning a rook, but also mating! Marin,Mihail

1-0

The second example is a bit more complicated.

D22
Pollak, Georg - Kupreichik, Viktor D
Nederland 1/344, 1966

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.e3 ♗g4 5.♗xc4 e6 6.h3 ♗h5 7.O-O a6 8.♘c3 ♘c6 9.♕e2 ♘a5!? 10.♗d3 c5 11.♖d1 ♕c7 12.dxc5 ♗xc5 13.♗d2 ♘c6 14.♖ac1 ♗e7 15.♘e4± O-O 16.♘g3 ♗g6 17.♗xg6 hxg6 18.♘d4! ♕b6 19.♘xc6 bxc6 20.♗c3 ♖fd8 21.♗d4 c5 22.♗xf6 ♗xf6 23.♖xd8+ ♖xd8 24.b3 ♖d5

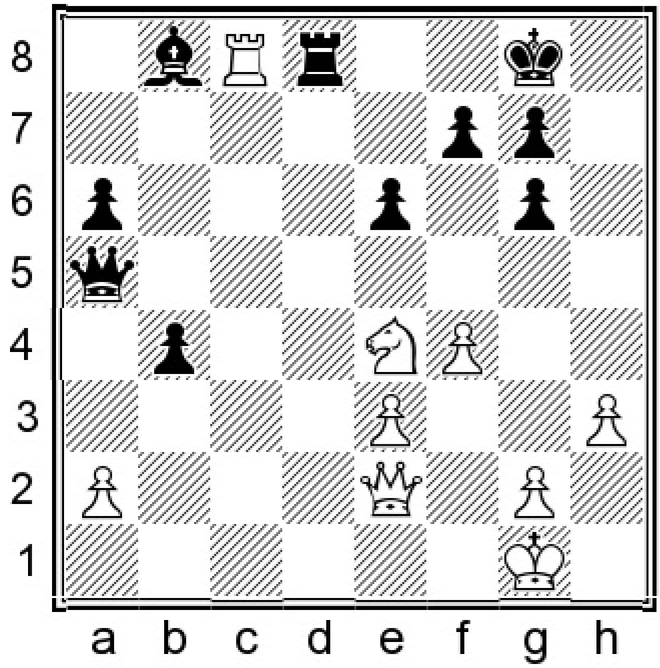
25.♘e4 ♕a5 26.♖c4 ♗e5?

26...♗e7±

27.f4 ♗b8 28.b4! cxb4

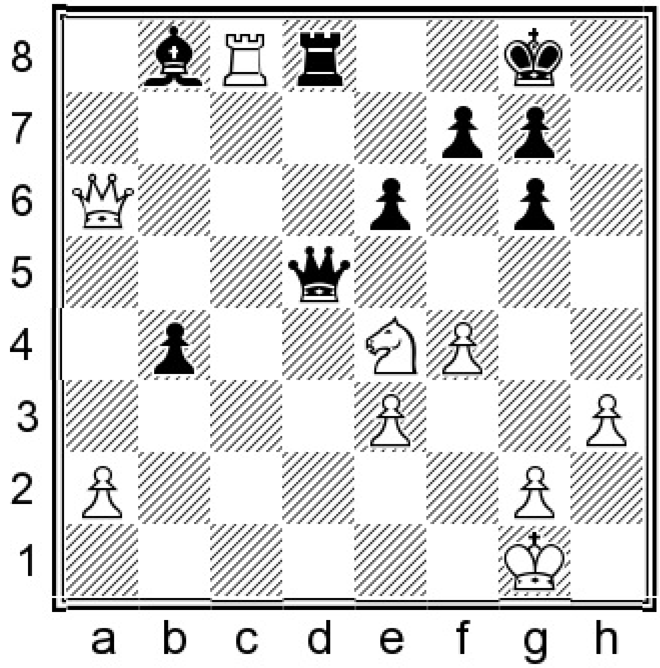
28...♕d8! 29.♘xc5 e5⇄ Marin,Mihail

29.♖c8+ ♖d8



30.♕xa6!! ♗c7

30...♕d5



31.♕b7!! ♕d1+ 32.♔h2+- White wins the bishop.

31.♕b7

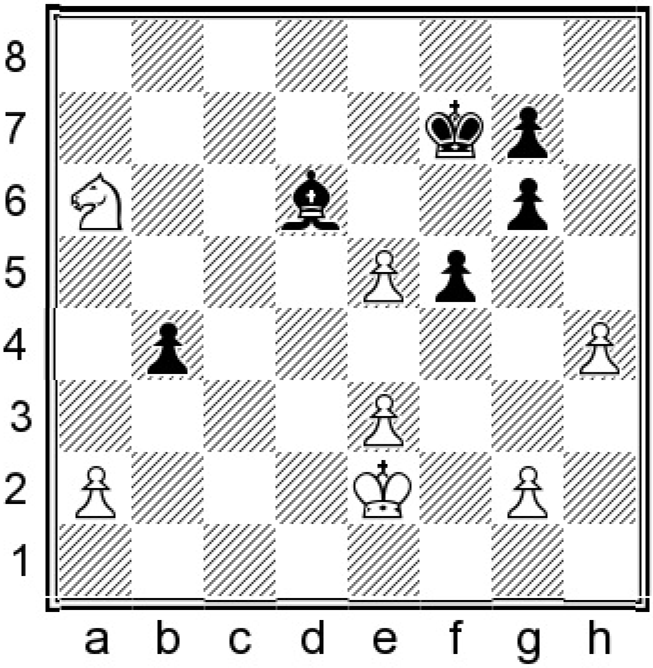
31.♖xd8+ ♗xd8 32.♕xa5 ♗xa5 33.♔f2+- was by far better way of simplifying to the endgame. The bishop is awfully misplaced on a5, costing Black a couple of tempi to correct its position. Marin,Mihail

31...♖xc8 32.♕xc8+ ♗d8 33.♘c5 ♕c7 34.♕xc7 ♗xc7 35.♘a6 ♗d6 The bishop even dominates the knight now, but the weakness of the pawn on b4 makes White's position more pleasant.

36.♔f2 f5 37.♔e2 ♔f7?!

Black might have got better chances by starting a direct kingside counterplay with either 37...♔h7 or 37...g5 38.fxg5 ♔f7 Marin,Mihail

38.h4 e5 39.fxe5



39...♗e7?

39...♗xe5 was the only chance. 40.♘xb4 ♗g3 41.a4 ♔e6 42.a5 ♔d6 43.♔f3 ♗xh4 44.a6 ♔c7 45.♘d5+ ♔b8 46.♘f4 ♔a7 (46...g5? 47.♘e6 threatening g3, wins the kingside battle.) 47.♘xg6 ♗g5! Even though Black's king is very far from the kingside, White cannot make progress. True, this is not easy to see in advance. 48.g3!? ♗d8! (48...♗f6! 49.♔f4+-; 48...♔xa6 49.♘h4 keeps Black struggling.) 49.♘h4 f4!! 50.exf4 g5 51.fxg5 ♗xg5 52.♔e4 ♔xa6 53.♘f3 ♗c1 54.g4 ♔b7 and Black's king reaches the kingside in time. Marin,Mihail

40.♔d3 ♔e6 41.♔d4 Zugzwang!

41...♗xh4

41...♔d7 42.♔d5+- Marin,Mihail

42.♘xb4 With two passed pawns, White wins.

42...♗d8 43.♘d3 g5 44.♘c5+ ♔e7 45.♔d5 ♗b6 46.♘e6 ♗xe3 47.♘xg7 f4 48.♘f5+ ♔d8 49.e6 ♗d2 50.♔d6

50.♘h6 was quicker. Marin,Mihail

50...♗b4+ 51.♔e5 ♗c3+ 52.♔e4 ♗d2 53.♘h6! Finally.

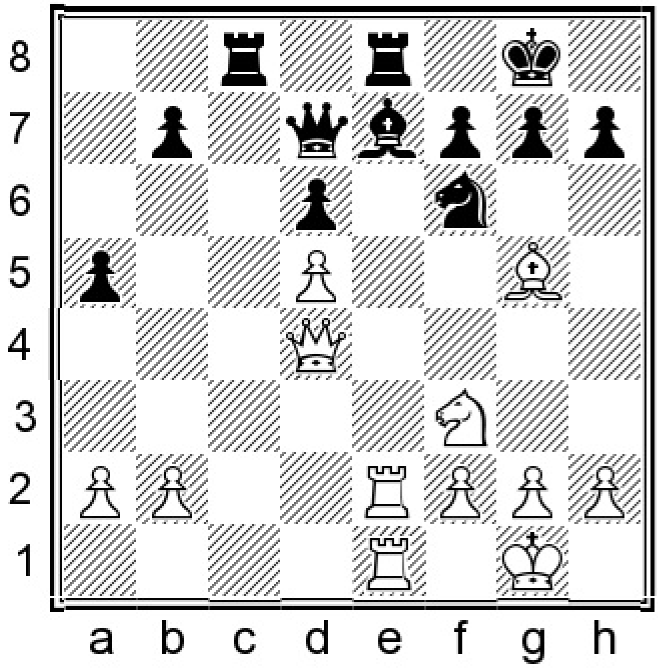
53...♔e7 54.♔f5 ♗c1 55.a4 ♗d2 56.♘g8+ ♔f8 57.♘f6 ♔e7 58.♘d5+ ♔e8 59.♔f6 1-0

I have mentioned that the theme of overloading the queen based on the eighth rank weakness was long famous. I had in mind that it was displayed in the following old game.

In fact, there is some doubt about whether the game was really played, or at least whether it ended the way mentioned below. Adams was the trainer of the 15-year-old and very talented Mexican player. He showed his gratitude to his trainer by publishing the game as we know it, but it is more probable that the final combination is the fruit of Torre's analysis in the company of his trainer.

C62
Adams, Edwin Ziegler - Torre Repetto, Carlos
New Orleans, 1920

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.♕xd4 ♘c6 5.♗b5 ♗d7 6.♗xc6 ♗xc6 7.♘c3 ♘f6 8.O-O ♗e7 9.♘d5 ♗xd5 10.exd5 O-O 11.♗g5 c6 12.c4 cxd5 13.cxd5 ♖e8 14.♖fe1 a5 15.♖e2 ♖c8? 16.♖ae1 ♕d7 White has considerable space advantage and the centralised queen seems to be one of the key elements in exerting the domination. However, the next move shows that White has entirely other plans...



17.♗xf6! ♗xf6

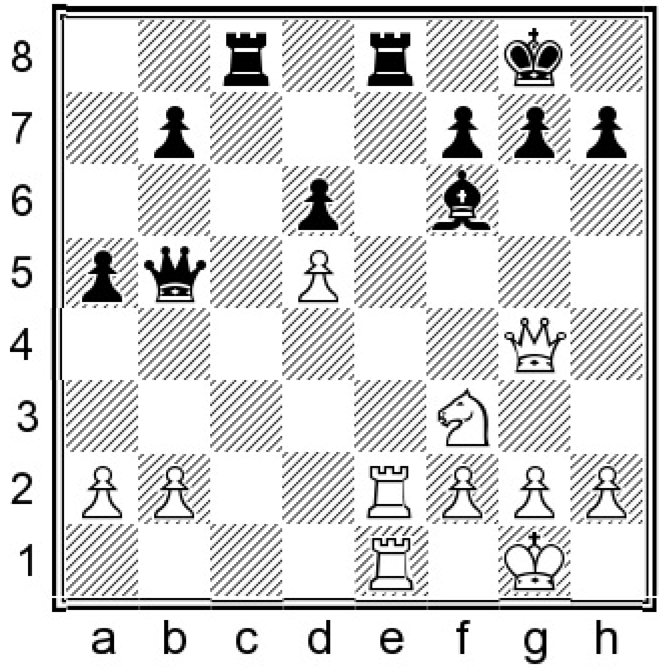
17...gxf6 does not look like an improvement. Black is simply lost. However, White has to avoid a trap mentioned by Torre in his comments: 18.♖xe7? (Δ 18...Re7 19. Re7 Qe7 20.Qg4) 18...♕xe7! Suddenly, it is White who has back rank problems! 19.♖xe7 ♖c1+-+

18.♕g4! White starts overloading the enemy queen, but the winning process requires some patience and accuracy.

18...♕b5

18...♕xg4 19.♖xe8+;

18...♕d8 19.♕xc8!



19.♕c4!! ♕d7 20.♕c7!! ♕b5

20...♕a4 21.♖e4 makes the win by one move shorter.

21.a4! In a certain way, similar to b3 in few previous games.

The back rank weakness is once again a double-edged issue: 21.♕xb7? ♕xe2! 22.♖xe2 ♖c1+-+

21...♕xa4 22.♖e4! White has managed to remove the rook from the vulnerable e2-square with gain of time.

22...♕b5

22...♕xe4 23.♖xe4+- renews the back rank problems, while retaining a decisive material advantage.

Black does not have the time for clearing an escape for the king: 22...h6 23.♕xc8! winning a rook.

23.♕xb7! The queen does not have squares left along the a4-e8 diagonal. **1-0**

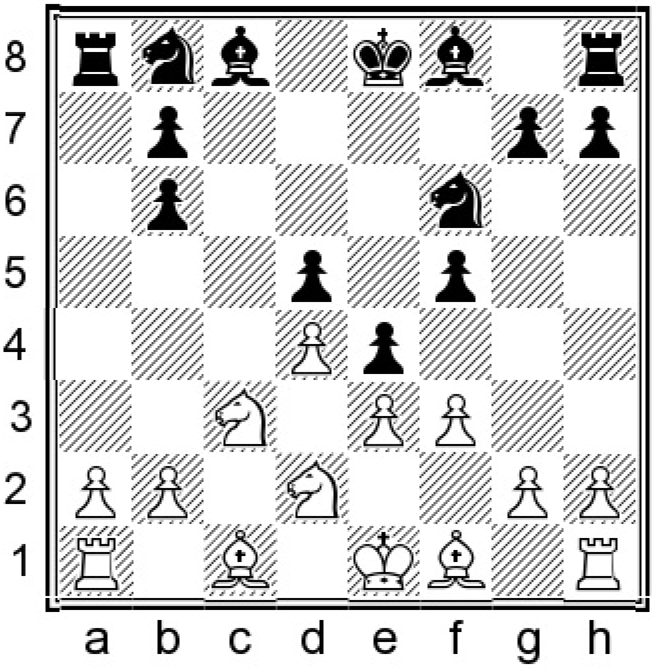
After having seen lots of tactics and even some endgame play, time has come to switch to opening ideas.

A21
Nei, Iivo - Kuijpers, Frans
Beverwijk 1/26, 1966

1.c4 e5 2.♘c3 d6 3.♘f3 f5 4.d4 e4 5.♘d2 ♘f6 6.e3 c6 7.f3! d5 8.♕b3! ♕b6?

8...exf3; 8...a6

9.♕xb6 axb6 10.cxd5 cxd5 Play has transposed from the English Opening to the reversed French Defence. White's next move takes advantage of Black's slight over-expansion with incomplete development.



11.g4!! Shattering Black's central structure.

11...h6??

11...♗b4! In fact, things are not rosy for Black here, either. 12.g5 ♗xc3 13.bxc3 ♘h5 14.fxe4 fxe4 15.♗e2 g6 16.O-O followed by c4 soon. Marin,Mihail

11...fxg4 12.fxe4 dxe4 13.♗g2 also offers White an overwhelming advantage in the centre. Marin,Mihail

11...exf3 12.g5 ♘e4 13.♘xd5 f2+ 14.♔d1± The pawns on b6 and f2 are doomed and Black still has to parry Nc7. Marin,Mihail

12.gxf5 exf3

12...♗xf5 13.fxe4 dxe4 14.♗g2± Marin,Mihail

13.♗d3+- f2+ 14.♔xf2 ♘c6 15.♖g1 ♔f7 16.♘f3 ♗d6 17.♗d2 ♖e8?

17...♘e7

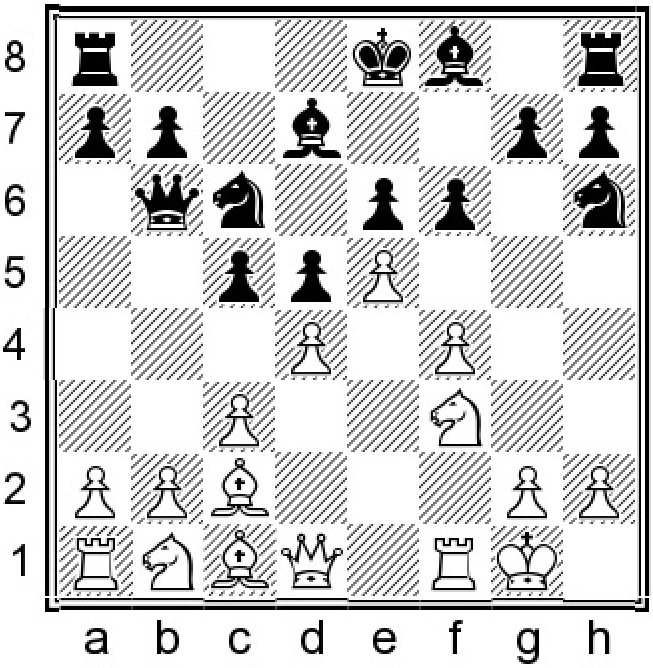
18.♘xd5! ♘xd5 19.♗c4 ♘e7 20.e4 ♔f8 21.e5! ♗xe5 22.dxe5 ♗xf5 23.♘d4 ♖ed8 24.♖ad1 ♖ac8 25.♗xd5! ♖xd5! 26.♘xf5 ♖c2 27.♘xe7 ♖dxd2+ 28.♖xd2 ♖xd2+ 29.♔e3 ♖xh2 30.♘f5 ♔f7 31.♖xg7+ 1-0

With reversed colours, the successive breaks with ...f6 and ...g5 are part of the theory in many lines with blocked centre, most typically after 3.Nd2 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5.f4. At the time when this game was published, this plan had been seen only occasionally. It is worth checking, though, one of the oldest games featuring this double pawn break, even though it started with a different opening.

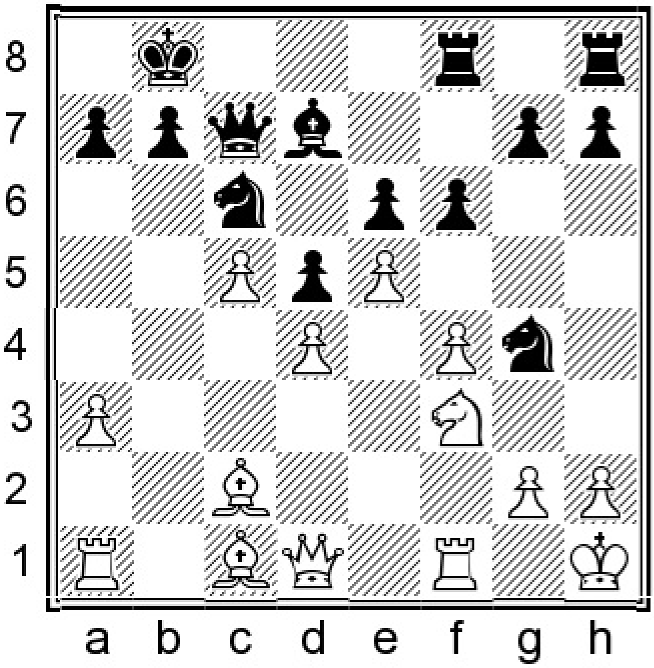
B21
McDonnell, Alexander - De Labourdonnais, Louis Charles Mahe
London (m/4), 1834

Indeed, the year is the one indicated above. The match between these two players featured many opening ideas that remained actual until today.

1.e4 c5 2.f4 ♘c6 3.♘f3 e6 4.c3 d5 5.e5 f6 6.♗d3 ♘h6 7.♗c2 ♗d7 8.O-O ♕b6 9.d4 From the reversed English (more properly known as the Sicilian) the game has transposed to a typical French structure. Quite a frequent issue in those days.



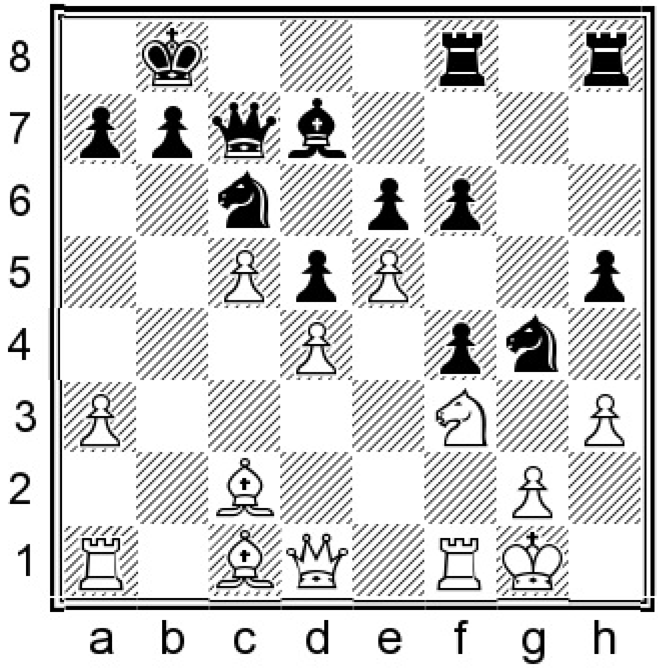
9...O-O-O 10.♔h1 ♘g4 11.a3 ♔b8 12.b4 cxd4 13.cxd4 ♗e7 14.♘c3 ♖df8 15.♘a4 ♕c7 16.♘c5 ♗xc5 17.bxc5 White's advantage is indisputable. The winner of the match found a way to mud up the waters, though.



17...g5!? 18.h3 h5! 19.♔g1? After this hesitating move, Black gets excellent play.

On the first step, White should have undermined Black's control over e5 with 19.♗a4! Attacked on the kingside, Black reacts on the other wing. 19...♔a8!? Evacuating the king from the dangerous diagonal. # The calm (19...gxf4 20.♗xc6 ♗xc6 21.♗xf4 fxe5 (Black has no time for 21...♗b5 due to 22.♕d2! Threatening ef6, 22...fxe5 23.♘xe5 ♖xf4 24.♖xf4 when Black does not have compensation for the exchange.) 22.♗xe5 ♘xe5 23.♘xe5+- The bishop is passive and the pawn on h5 vulnerable, helping White in his fight for the f-file.) 20.♖b1!!, preventing ...Bb5, may be the most convincing. (20.♔g1!? still offers Black some chances. 20...gxf4 21.♗xc6 ♗xc6 22.♗xf4 ♗b5 This is possible now. 23.♖e1 fxe5 24.♗xe5 ♘xe5 25.♖xe5 (25.♘xe5 ♕g7 is safer than the similar line above, as Black at least has the f-file.) 25...♖hg8!? In both cases White is better, but Black can still fight.) 20...gxf4 21.♗xc6 ♗xc6 22.♗xf4 fxe5 23.♗xe5 ♘xe5 24.♘xe5 ♗e8 25.♕e2+-

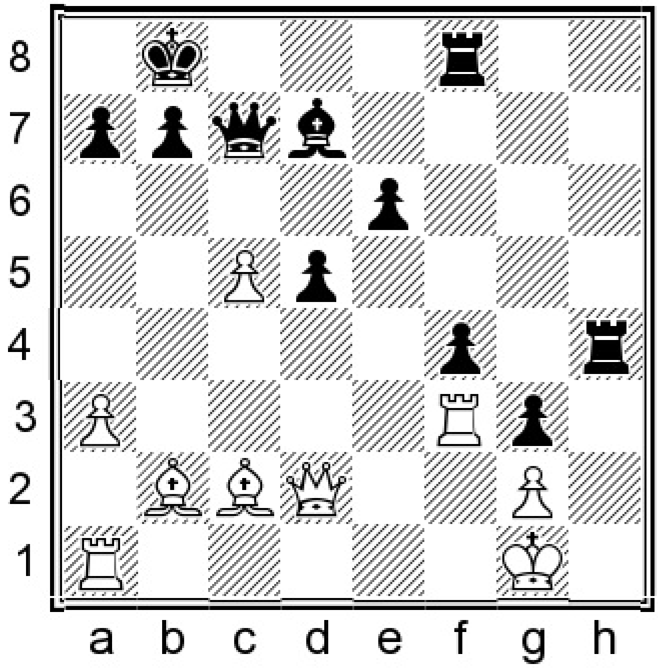
19...gxf4



20.hxg4? Pure suicide.

20.exf6 ♖xf6 would have remained unclear, but Black would have nothing to complain about.

20...hxg4 21.♘e1 fxe5 22.♗b2 g3 23.dxe5 ♘xe5 24.♘f3 ♘xf3+ 25.♖xf3 ♖h4 26.♕d2



26...♕xc5+? In vain wasting a tempo for the sake of one pawn.

26...e5! would have consolidated the pawn on f4, turning the attack along the h-file decisive. 27.♕xd5 ♖fh8 28.♔f1 ♗b5+! The "passive bishop" strikes, too. 29.♔e1 ♖d8 Black wins the queen or else mates with ...Rh1

27.♗d4 ♕e7 28.♕a5 It appears that the capture on c5 has also cleared a good diagonal for the bishop.

28...a6

28...b6 29.♗xb6!

29.♖b1 ♗b5 30.♖xb5 ♖fh8 31.♗xh8 ♖h1+ 32.♔xh1 ♕h4+ 33.♔g1 ♕h2+ 34.♔f1 ♕h1+ 35.♔e2 ♕xg2+ 36.♔e1 ♕h1+ 37.♔d2 ♕xh8 38.♕xa6 ♕h2+ 39.♔c1 1-0

The Chess Player's Chronicle, 1843, p. 312

ELSHAN'S EXPLORATIONS

By GM Elshan Moradiabadi

MELTWATER CHAMPIONS CHESS TOUR FINALS

Magnus wins, Wesley stumbles

The Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Finals proved to be another success for online chess where a lot of heated chess battles occurred. Although the final result was a rather expected one, we saw once more Carlsen winning the tour as he entered the final with the most number of bonus points one could imagine. Nevertheless, the event saw a lot of fantastic chess. It is really easy to write about it with so many interesting games, opening ideas, critical moments, and tragicomedies. So, instead of focusing on a game or two for the whole event, here I bring before you a plethora of chess beauties that embellished the event!

CHESS24.com, IX–X 2021
The Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Finals

The 2021 Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Finals is a 10-player all-play-all tournament. The players start with bonus points based on their performance over the $1.6 million tour so far and then play a match each day for a maximum of 3 points. The top scorer after 9 rounds wins $100,000 and is crowned the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour champion.

Each match features four rapid games with a time control of 15 minutes for all moves plus a 10-second increment added each move. The winner gets 3 points and the loser 0. If tied 2 : 2, then a blitz playoff is played, with two games where the players have 5 minutes and a 3-second increment. If still tied they play a single Armageddon game, where White has 5 minutes to Black's 4, but a draw counts as a win for Black. The winner after a playoff gets 2 points, the loser 1.

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	B	P	T
1	M. CARLSEN	g	2842	■	3	0	0	2	3	0	2	2	3	16½	15	31½
2	W. SO	g	2766	0	■	0	0	2	1	3	0	3	2	12½	11	23½
3	ARONIAN	g	2761	3	3	■	0	3	0	3	1	3	0	8	16	24
4	T. RADJABOV	g	2747	3	3	3	■	1	1	1	3	3	3	6	21	27
5	ANISH GIRI	g	2712	1	1	0	2	■	2	0	3	0	0	5½	9	14½
6	HI. NAKAMURA	g	2836	0	2	3	2	1	■	2	2	2	3	4	17	21
7	V. ARTEMIEV	g	2755	3	0	0	2	3	1	■	2	3	0	3½	14	17½
8	VACHIER-LAGRAVE	g	2773	1	3	2	0	0	1	1	■	0	3	2½	11	13½
9	MAMEDYAROV	g	2727	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	■	1	½	9	9½
10	J.-K. DUDA	g	2801	0	1	3	0	3	0	3	0	2	■	0	12	12

B = Bonus; P = Points; T = Total

B00
Aronian, Levon (2782) - Carlsen, Magnus (2855)
chess24.com (Internet-m/4-rapid), 2021

1.e4 ♘c6

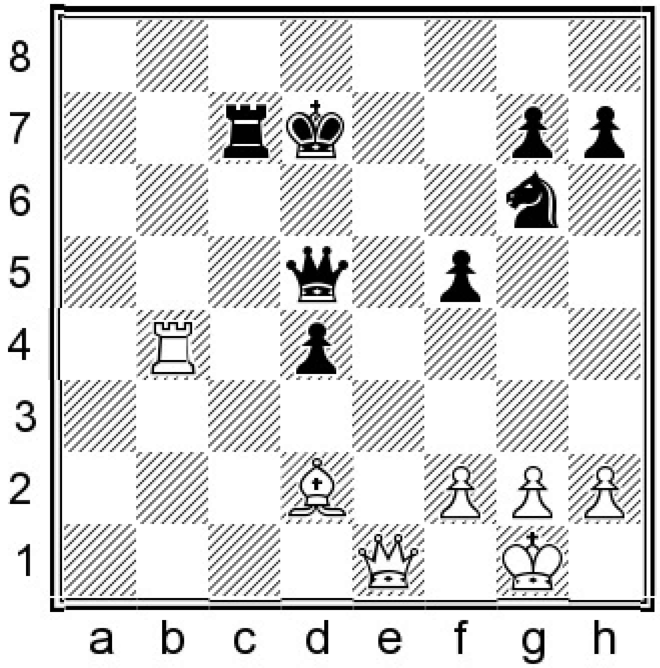
Carlsen has employed this idea before against Nepomniachtchi in 2020.

2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5 4.c3 e6 5.♗d3

5.♘f3 ♕d7 6.♘h4 ♗e4 7.♘d2 O-O-O 8.♗b5 a6 9.♗a4 f6 10.♘hf3 ♘ge7 11.O-O ♘g6 12.♖e1 ♗f5 13.b4 fxe5 14.dxe5 b5 15.♗c2 d4 16.♗xf5 exf5 17.c4! ♗xb4 (17...bxc4 18.♘xc4 ♗xb4 19.♗d2→) 18.cxb5 (18.e6!?) 18...axb5 19.♖b1 ♖he8 20.a4 ♕d5 21.axb5 ♗xd2 22.♗xd2 ♘cxe5 23.♘xe5 ♖xe5 24.b6 ♖xe1+ 25.♕xe1 ♔d7 26.bxc7 ♖c8 27.♖b4 (27.♕d1!?) 27...♖xc7

Elshan Moradiabadi

- **Country:** USA
- **Born:** 1985
- **Rating:** 2540
- **Peak rating:** 2603
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 2005



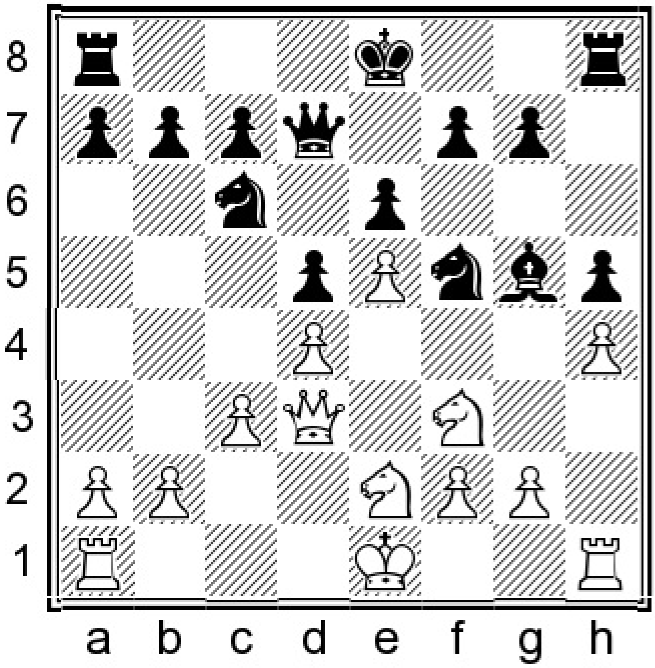
(27...♘f8!?) 28.♕a1! ♔e8 29.♖xd4 ♕e6 30.h4 ♖d7 31.♕a4 ♘e5 32.♗f4 ♘c6 33.♖c4 ♘e7 34.♖c7 ♘d5 35.♖c6 ♕e1+ 36.♔h2 ♔f7 37.♕a2 ♕e4 38.g3 h6 39.h5 ♕f3 40.♔g1 ♔g8 41.♖c8+ (41.♕a8+) 41...♔h7 42.♕a8 ♕d1+ 43.♔h2 ♕xh5+ 44.♔g1 ♕d1+ 45.♔h2 ♘xf4 46.♖h8+ ♔g6 47.♕e8+ ♔g5 48.gxf4+ ♔xf4 49.♖f8 ♖d3 Δ Rh3! (49...♔g5?⊕ 50.♕e3+ ♔g6 51.♕e6+ ♔h7 52.♕g8+ ♔g6 53.♕e6+ ♔h7 54.♕g8+ ♔g6 55.♕e6+ 1/2 : 1/2 Nepomniachtchi,Ian 2784 - Carlsen,Magnus 2863, chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2020)

5...♘ge7 6.♘e2 h5

6...f6 This is also an interesting choice. 7.exf6 (7.f4 h5 8.a4 (8.♕c2 h4 9.♘d2 ♕d7 10.h3 ♘d8 11.♘f3 ♘f7 12.O-O ♗xd3 13.♕xd3 ♘f5 14.♗e3 O-O-O 15.♗f2 ♗e7 16.c4 dxc4 17.♕xc4 g5⇄) 8...♘a5 9.b4 ♘c4 10.♘a3 ♗xd3 11.♕xd3 ♘xa3 12.♗xa3 ♕d7⇄) 7...gxf6 8.O-O ♕d7 9.♘g3 O-O-O 10.♘xf5 ♘xf5 11.♗xf5 exf5 12.♕f3 h5 13.♘d2 ♗d6 14.b4 ♘e7 15.♘b3 ♘g6 16.♘c5 ♗xc5 17.bxc5 ♖dg8 18.♔h1 ♖g7 19.♖g1 ♕e6 20.♗d2 ♕e4 21.♕h3 ♕g4 22.♕d3 ♕e4 23.♕b5 c6 24.♕b2 f4= Meshalkin, Yury - Latypov,Mikhail, corr 2018/19

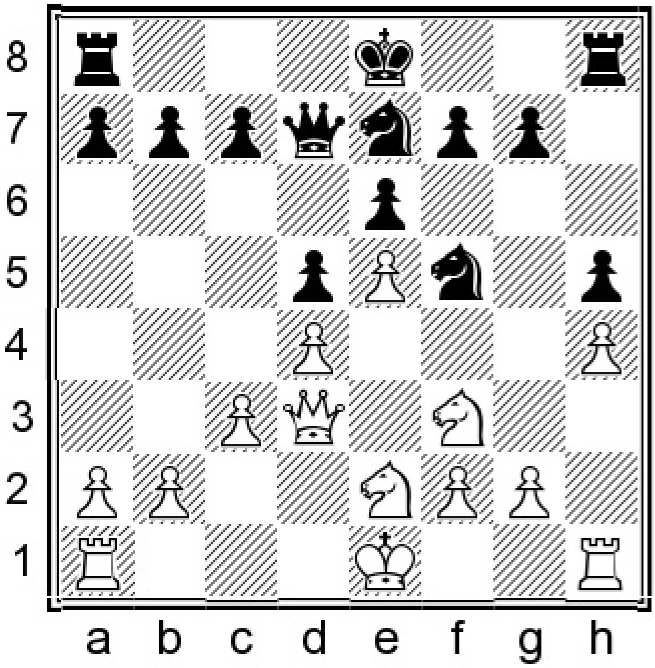
7.♗g5 ♕d7 8.h4 ♗xd3 9.♕xd3 ♘f5 10.♘d2 ♗e7 11.♗xe7?!

11.♘f3 ♗xg5



12.hxg5! I believe this is a small finesse missed by Aronian. 12...O-O-O 13.♘f4 g6 14.b4 ♔b8 15.O-O h4 16.a4 h3 17.g3→ Black has no attack on the kingside while White's attack seems to be unstoppable on the queenside.

11...♘cxe7 12.♘f3



12...O-O-O?!

12...♖c8! 13.g3 c5 14.O-O O-O=

13.a4 ♘g6 14.g3 f6 15.b4 ♔b8 16.O-O ♖hf8 17.♔h2? A waste of time.

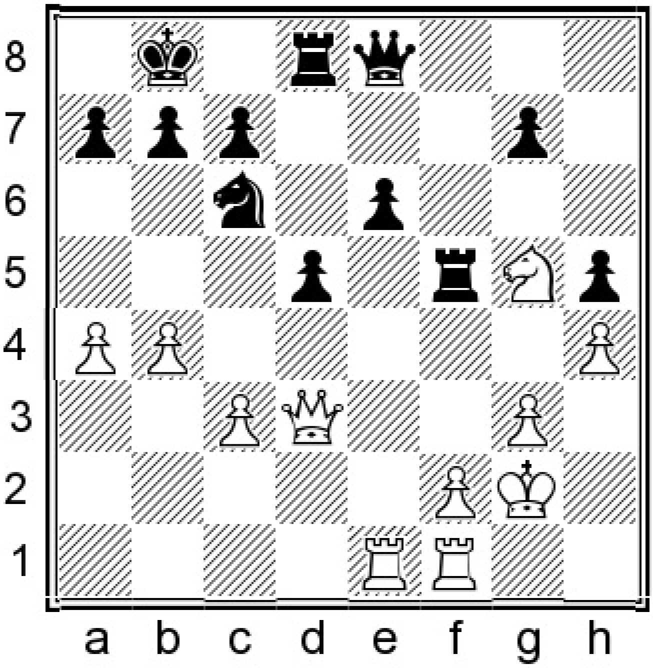
17.a5 a6 18.♖ae1 ♖f7 19.♘c1± with Nb3 and Nc5 following. White is better, or maybe even strategically winning.

17...♕f7 18.♘eg1 ♘h6 19.♖ae1 ♘g4+ 20.♔g2 fxe5 21.dxe5 ♕e8 22.♘h3 ♖f5 23.♘hg5? After outplaying his opponent once again, Aronian loses some of his advantage.

23.♕d1! ♕d7 24.a5 ♖df8 25.♘d4 ♖xe5 26.♖xe5 ♘6xe5 27.♕e2 ♕d6 28.a6+- This sequence is very hard to see and almost impossible in a rapid game.

23...♘6xe5 24.♘xe5 ♘xe5 25.♕d4 ♘c6 26.♕d3?

26.♕xg7 e5 27.♕h7∞ Could lead to something similar to the game continuation.



26...♖f6?

26...♕g6! 27.♕d1 e5 28.b5 ♘a5 29.f4 exf4 30.♕b1 ♕f6 31.♘h7 ♕f7 32.♘g5= An almost impossible draw to occur, but Qg6 was a nice resource that Carlsen missed.

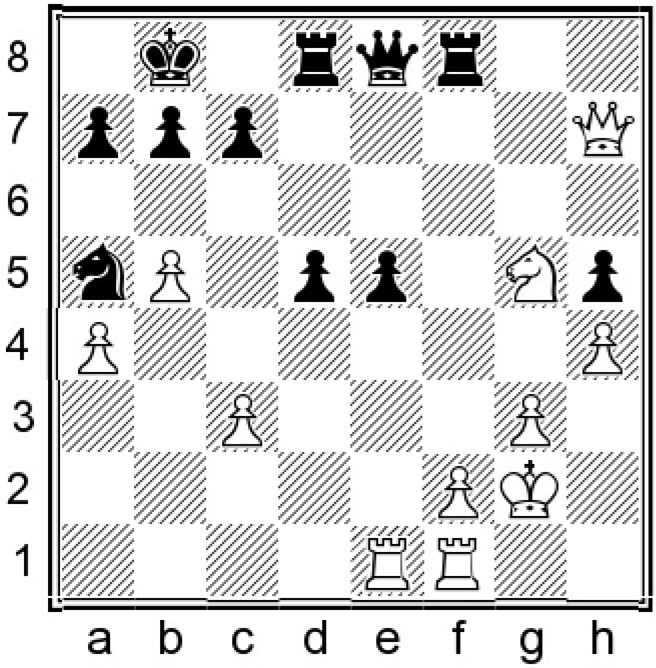
27.b5?!

27.f4! d4 28.f5 e5 29.♘e6 ♖xe6 30.fxe6 ♕xe6 31.b5+-

27...♘a5 28.♕h7?!

28.f4!±

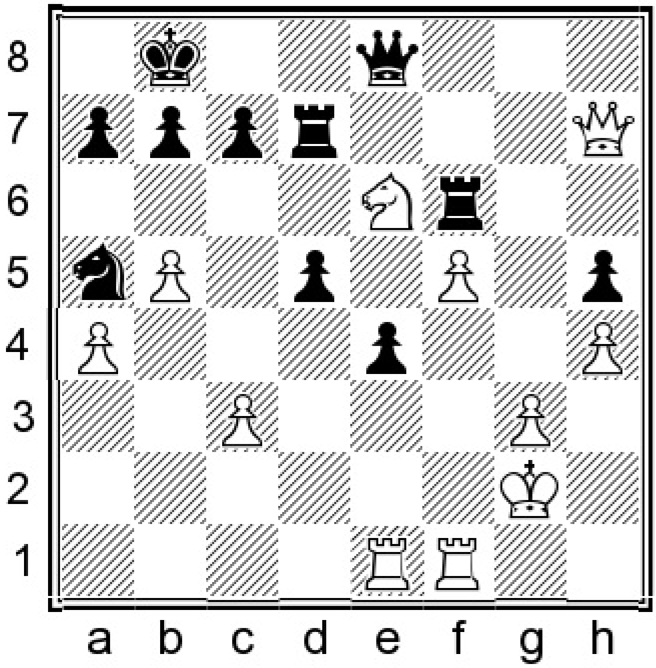
28...e5 29.♕xg7 ♖f5 30.♕h7 ♖f8?? Carlsen tried to play for a win but...



31.f4!! A mind-blowing intuition! The pawn will roll and decide the game.

31...e4 32.f5 ♕e5

32...♖f6 33.♘e6 ♖d7

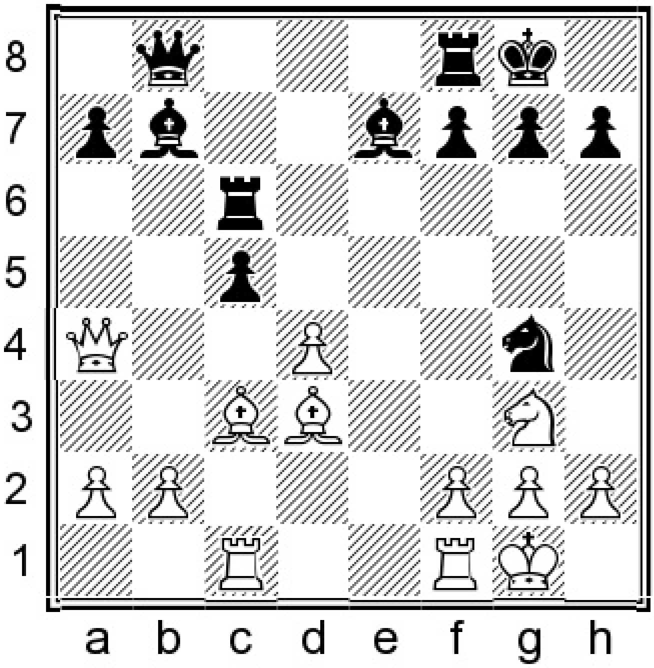


34.♕g6!!+-

33.f6 ♕xc3 34.f7 ♘c4 35.♘e6 ♕d2+ 36.♔h3 ♘e5 37.♘xf8 ♘f3 38.♘d7+ ♔a8 39.♕xh5 ♘xe1 40.f8=Q 1-0

A great example of the super-GM intuition.

Artemiev, Vladislav (2699) - Aronian, Levon (2782)

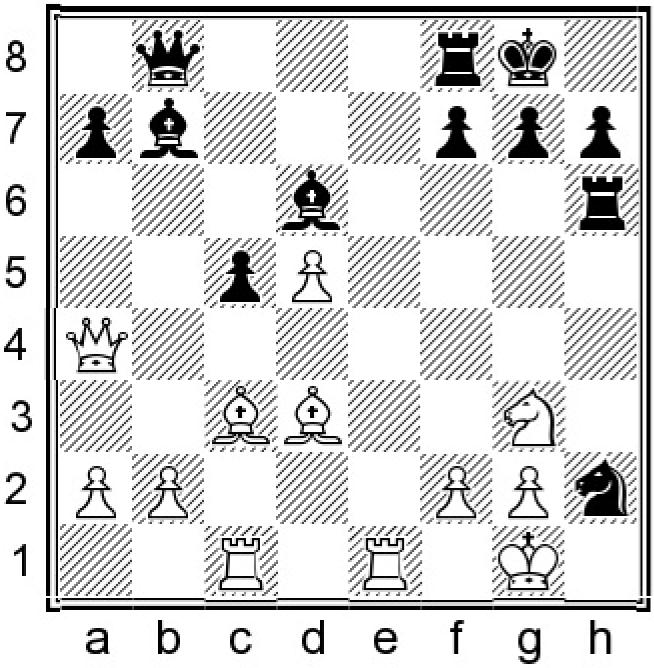


18...♖h6 Aronian's eye-pleasing play is hardly justifiable in the presence of iron-cast engine analysis. However, Artemiev had a hard time discovering the best way to play. The position is winning for White and also highly entertaining and complex!

19.♕d7? Squanders most of White's advantage.

19.dxc5 ♘xh2 20.♖fe1 ♗xc5 21.♗e5+- is winning.

19.d5! ♘xh2 20.♖fe1 ♗d6



21.♗xg7!+- Could it be that Artemiev missed this?

19...♖xh2 20.d5 ♕f4 21.♕f5 ♗d6 22.♕xf4 ♗xf4 23.♖ce1

23.♗c4! A beautiful exchange sacrifice. 23...♗xc1 24.♖xc1 ♖h6 25.♘f5 ♖b6 26.f3 ♘f6 27.a4± and White is positionally winning.

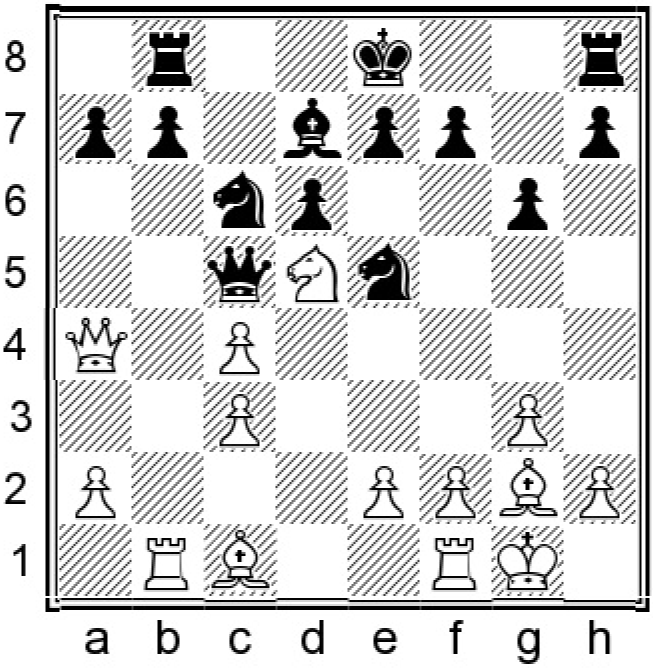
23...♗xd5 24.♗e4 ♗e6= Now it is all balanced, however Aronian managed to win in the ensuing long battle.

E61
Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2762) - Carlsen, Magnus (2855)
chess24.com (Internet-m/1-rapid), 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.g3 c5 Mamedyarov entered the final with the lowest number of bonus points and least favorite in the event, while Magnus had a very high hope of winning the grand prize. Nevertheless, when on one side of a duel you have Mamedyarov, you usually see beautiful and entertaining chess!

5.dxc5 ♕a5 6.♗g2 ♕xc5 7.♗d2

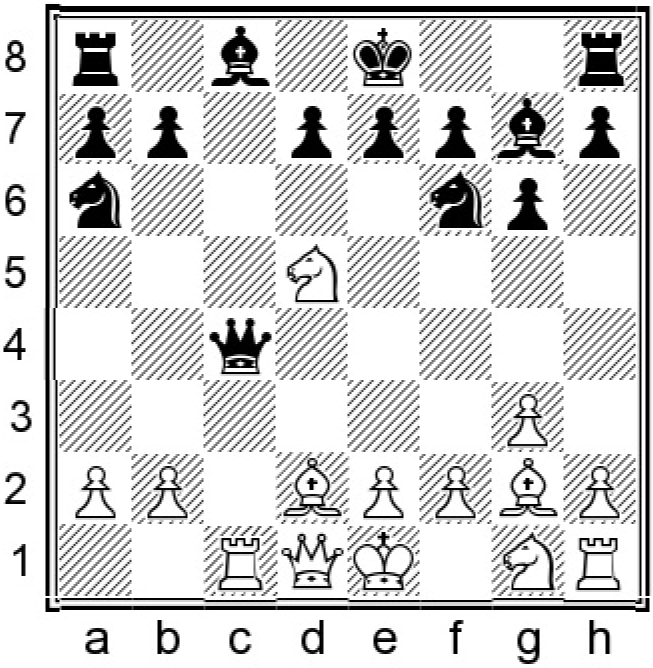
7.♕a4 Engines prefer this move. 7...♘g4 (7...O-O 8.♗e3 ♕c7 9.♘h3 d6 10.♘f4 ♗d7 11.♘fd5 ♘xd5 12.♘xd5 ♕d8 13.♕a3 ♘c6 14.O-O± Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi 2723 - Narayanan,Sunilduth Lyna 2573, Moscow 2018) 8.♘h3 ♗xc3+ 9.bxc3 ♘c6 10.O-O ♘ge5 11.♘f4 d6 12.♘d5 ♖b8 13.♖b1 ♗d7



14.♗h6!?∞ (14.♘c7+? ♔d8 15.♘d5 ♕xc4 (15...♘xc4!∓ 16.♕c2 ♘6e5) 16.♕d1=∞ Martinovic,Sasa 2539 - Jones,Gawain 2688, Batumi 2019)

7...♕xc4!? This is playable.

8.♖c1 ♘a6 9.♘d5

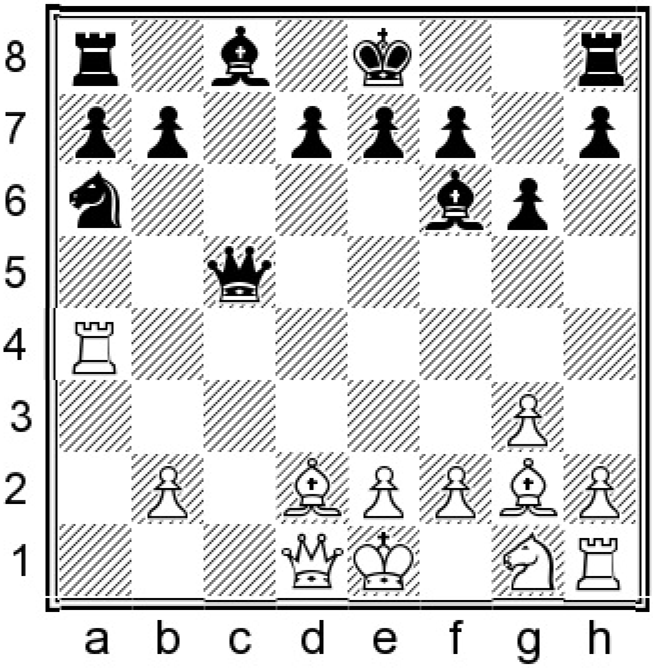


9...♕xa2??

9...♕b5 10.♗c3 d6 11.a4 ♕d7 12.♗xf6 ♗xf6 13.♘xf6+ exf6 14.h4 h5 15.♘h3 ♘c5 16.♘f4 a5 17.♕d4 ♕d8 18.♘d5 ♔f8!± Engine says that Black should be able to equalise here. I still give White some symbolic edge.

10.♖a1 ♕c4 11.♖a4! The World Champion must have forgotten about this in between movie.

11...♕c5 12.♘xf6+ ♗xf6



13.♖xa6! Now White is up a piece and Mamedyarov easily converted. **13...bxa6 14.♗xa8 ♗xb2 15.♘f3 O-O 16.O-O d6 17.♗h6 ♖d8 18.♗e3 ♕b4 19.♗d5 e6 20.♕c2 ♕c3 21.♕xc3 ♗xc3 22.♖c1 ♗f6**

23.♗c6 a5 24.♗b5 ♗d7 25.♗xd7 ♖xd7 26.♖c6 d5 27.♗h6 ♖d8 28.♖a6 ♗g7 29.♗xg7 ♔xg7 30.♖xa7 ♔f6 31.♖xa5 ♖d7 32.e3 h5 33.♖a8 ♖b7 34.♔g2 ♖c7 35.h3 ♖b7 36.g4 hxg4 37.hxg4 ♖c7 38.g5+ ♔f5 39.♖a4 e5 40.♖a6 ♖d7 41.♔g3 ♔e4 42.♖a8 ♖e7 43.♖d8 ♖e6 44.♖d7 f5 45.gxf6 1-0

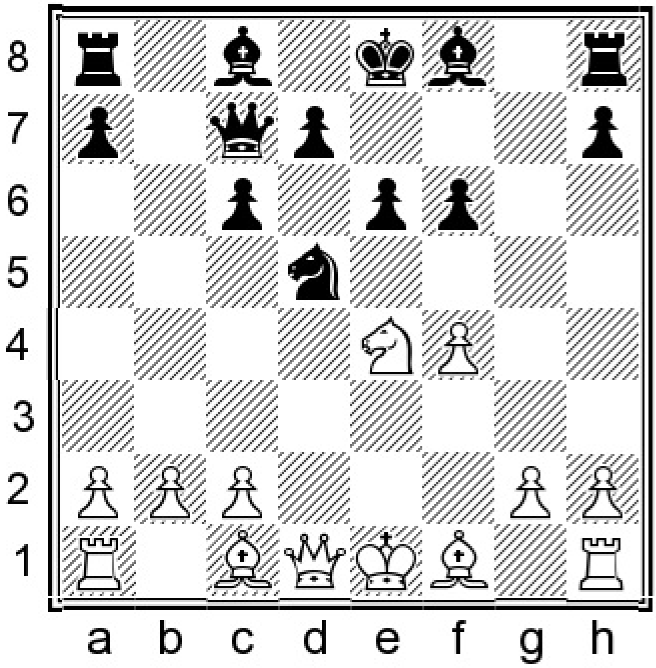
B45
So, Wesley (2778) - Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2762)
chess24.com (Internet-m/1-rapid), 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 ♘c6 As a solid choice in the Sicilian, this line is becoming more topical these days, so I decided to pick up a game for those who love to follow the hottest trends.

6.♘xc6 bxc6 7.e5 ♘d5 8.♘e4 ♕c7 9.f4 f5

9...♕b6 This is the successful main line for Black, where the results are moving toward showing that Black is doing well here Vachier Lagrave,Maxime 2749 - Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu 2608, Krasnaya Polyana (m/2) 2021 - 149/45

10.exf6 gxf6



11.♗d3?! Not my favourite move.

11.♗d2! This is a critical choice. 11...♖b8!?= (11...♗e7 12.♕h5+ ♔d8 13.c4 ♘xf4 14.♕f3!? (14.♕h6 This has proven its value in ICCF too. 14...♘g6 15.O-O-O d5 16.♗c3 ♖f8 (16...a5 17.♔b1 ♖f8 (17...♕f4?! 18.♕xf4 ♘xf4 19.♘xf6 e5 20.♗xe5 ♗f5+ 21.♔c1 ♖f8 22.♗xf4 ♖xf6 23.cxd5 ♗g4 24.♖d4 ♖xf4 25.♖xf4 ♗g5 26.g3 ♗f3 27.♖g1 ♔c7± Bunk,Wolfgang - Baranowski,Tadeusz, corr 2016/17)) 17.♕xh7 ♘e5 18.♗e2 f5 19.♘d2 ♗f6 20.♕h6 ♘d7 (20...♕g7?! 21.♕e3 a5 22.♖he1 ♘d7 23.♗xf6+ ♖xf6 24.♔b1 f4 25.♕f2 ♖g6 26.♘b3 a4 27.cxd5 cxd5 28.♘c5 (28.♘d4!?) 28...a3 29.♖d2 ♖h6 30.♗d1 ♘xc5 31.♕xc5 ♗d7 32.♕b6+ ♔e7 33.♕b7 ♕h7+ 34.♗c2 ♕h8 35.♗b3 ♕h7+ 36.♔a1 1 : 0

Doppelhammer, Herbert - Sciallero,Vittorio, corr 2018)) 14...♘g6 15.c5 f5 16.♘d6 ♗xd6 17.cxd6 ♕xd6 18.O-O-O↑ This also looks very promising as White's initiative looks really daunting.)

11...♗a6 12.♗xa6 ♕a5+ 13.♗d2 ♕xa6 14.♕h5+ ♔d8 15.f5N

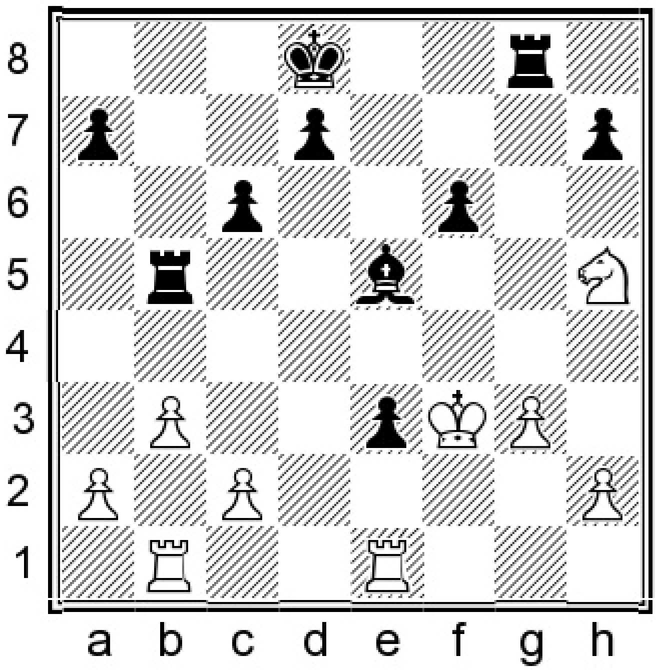
Better is 15.b3 ♕b6 (15...f5?! 16.♘g5 ♗g7 17.♖d1 ♖e8 18.c4 ♘f6 19.♕e2 c5 20.♗c3 ♖e7 21.♕b2+- Leitao,Rafael 2580 - Ricardi,Pablo 2547, Santiago de Chile 2005. I am not sure why White lost here but he is completely winning in this position.) 16.♕f3 ♖g8 17.c4 f5 18.♘g5 ♘b4 19.♖d1± The game is complex but I consider White's prospects a bit better in long term.

15...♕c4!= This threat makes sure Black is safe.

16.♕e2 ♕xe2+ 17.♔xe2 exf5 18.♘g3 f4 19.♘h5 ♗d6 20.♔f3 ♗e5 21.♖ab1 ♖g8 22.♖he1 ♖b8 23.b3 ♘e3

23...♘b4!? 24.♖e2 ♘xa2∓

24.♗xe3 fxe3 25.g3! ♖b5



26.♖bd1! ♖g5 27.♘f4 ♗xf4 28.gxf4∓ ♖h5 White should prevent Rh3.

28...♖g7 keeps more tension. 29.h4 ♖h5 30.♖h1 ♔c7 31.c4 ♖a5 32.♖h2= But White holds anyways.

29.♔g3! ♖h6 Aiming for Rbh5.

30.♖xe3 ♖bh5 31.♖ed3! ♖h3+

31...d5 with more complications. 32.♖h1 ♖g6+ 33.♔f2 ♖h4 34.♖d4 ♔c7=

32.♔g4 ♖xd3 33.♖xd3 ♖xh2= 34.♔f5 ♔e7 35.c4 ♖xa2 36.b4 ♖h2 37.♖e3+ ♔f7 38.♖d3 d5 39.♖a3 ♖h5+ 40.♔g4 ♔g6 41.♖xa7 dxc4 42.♖a6 c5 43.b5 ♖d5 44.b6 h5+ 45.♔h4 ♖d3

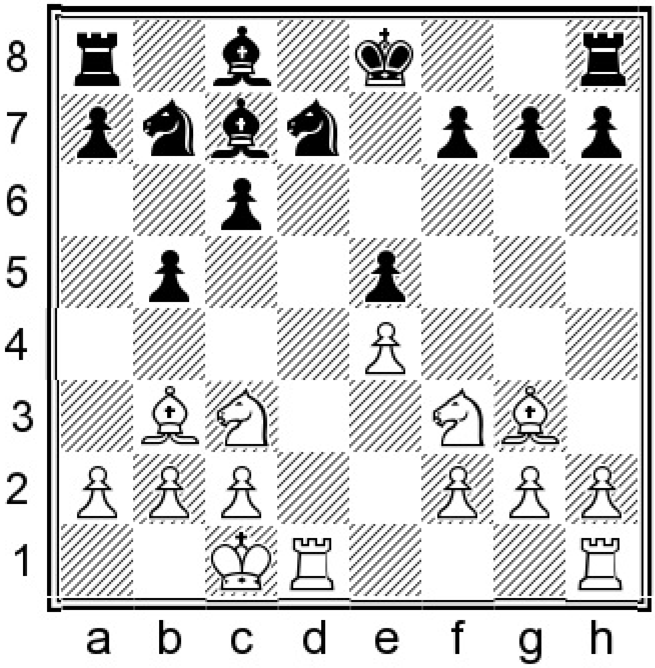
45...♖d1 feels easier. 46.♖a5 ♖h1+ 47.♔g3 ♖g1+ 48.♔h3 h4=

46.♖a4 ♖b3 47.♖xc4 ♖xb6 48.♖xc5 ♖b4 49.♖xh5 ♖xf4+ 50.♔g3 ♔xh5 51.♔xf4 f5 52.♔xf5 1/2-1/2

I chose this encounter to show how creativity and tenacity could change a game. This position is better for Black as White's misplaced bishops are easy to trade, after which, it will be only Black who can rule the board. However, Aronian showed his creativity and by means of some luck managed to entirely turn the tables and score a crucial victory.

C50
Aronian, Levon (2782) - Artemiev, Vladislav (2699)
chess24.com (Internet-m/4-rapid), 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 d6 4.d4 ♘f6 5.dxe5 dxe5 6.♕xd8+ ♘xd8 7.♘c3 ♗d6 8.♗g5 c6 9.O-O-O ♗c7 10.♗h4 b5 11.♗b3 ♘b7 12.♗g3 ♘d7



13.♘e2! White is trying to make something out of the pin along the h2-b8 diagonal.

13...♘bc5?!

13...h5! This was the only way for Artemiev to maintain his advantage. 14.h3 Now the idea with Rh6 does not work. (14.h4?! ♘bc5 15.♘ed4 ♖h6 16.♘f5 ♖g6 17.♖he1 a5∓ and White is in trouble.) 14...♘bc5 (14...a5 15.a4 ♘bc5 16.♗a2 b4 17.♘ed4 h4 18.♗h2 f6 19.♖he1 ♘b6!∓ Black is somewhat better according to the engines but none of these moves are easy to find even in an over-the-board classical game let alone a rapid online game. Once again, the credit goes to Aronian for being so resourceful and introducing complications that are hard to deal with even for a player of Artemiev's level.) 15.♘ed4 ♖h6 16.♘f5 ♖g6 17.♘3h4± gives White some edge.

14.♘ed4 Now it is a toss up.

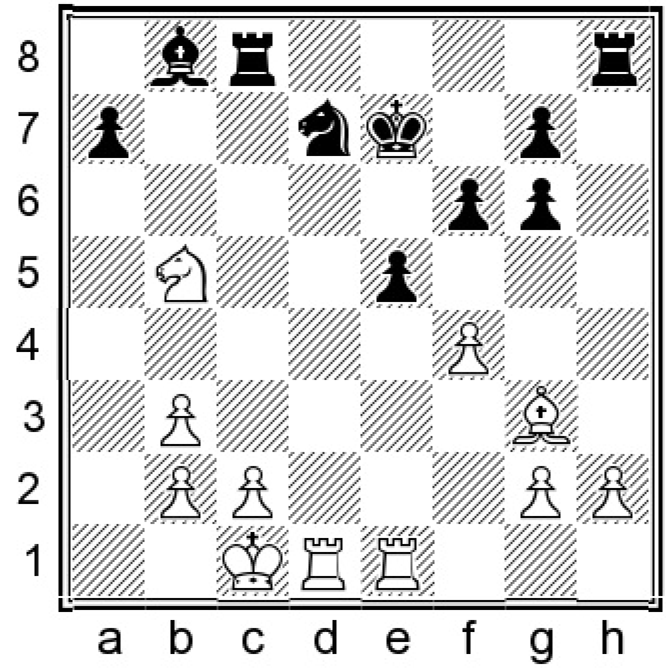
14...f6 15.♘xc6 ♘xb3+ 16.axb3 ♗b7? A blunder!

16...♘c5 17.♘cd4 ♗d7 18.♖he1 g6⩱ And Black's compensation is more than enough as the bishop on g3 is still pretty bad.

17.♘cd4! White goes back he very same way he came forward.

17...♖c8 18.♘xb5 ♗xe4 19.♖he1 Now White is simply up a pawn and has a crushing advantage.

19...♗g6 20.♘h4 ♗b8 21.♘xg6 hxg6 22.f4 ♔e7



23.♘d4 Third time is the charm!

23...♔f7 24.♘f3 ♘c5 25.fxe5 Now it is all over!

25...♘xb3+ 26.♔b1 ♘c5 27.b4 ♘a4 28.♖d7+ ♔e6 29.♖xg7 ♖c4 30.exf6+ ♔xf6 31.♖ee7 ♖xb4+ 32.♔c1 ♖f8 33.♗xb8 ♖bxb8 34.♖xa7 ♘c3 35.♖gc7 ♖b1+ 36.♔d2 ♘e4+ 37.♔e3 ♖e8 38.♖f7+ ♔e6 39.♔xe4 ♔d6+ 40.♔d3 1-0

I chose the following game to show that having a classical knowledge is an integral part of a serious chess player's arsenal, no matter at what level he or she studies chess. Here, Aronian simply uncorks the idea of exchange sacrifice on d6, after which Black remains paralysed and experiences a painful, slow demise.

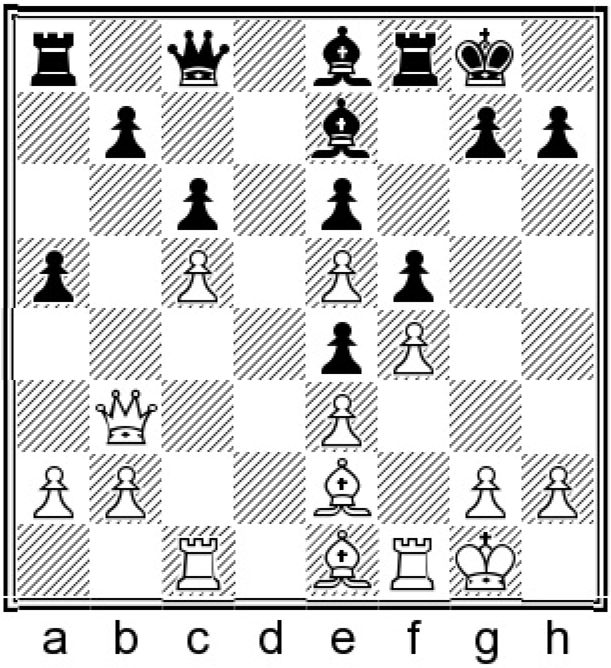
A85
Aronian, Levon (2782) - Giri, Anish (2777)
chess24.com Internet-m/4-rapid), 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 c6 4.e3 ♗d6 5.♘c3 f5 6.♘e5 ♘f6 7.♗e2 O-O 8.O-O ♗d7

8...b6 Vitugov,Nikita 2638 - Timofeev,Artyom 2670, Russia (ch) 2008 - 104/171

8...♘bd7 Tkachiev,Vladislav 2672 - Bareev,Evgeny 2709, Enghien-les-Bains 2001 - 81/(60)

9.f4 ♗e8 10.♗d2 ♘bd7 11.♗e1 a5 12.♖c1 ♘e4 13.♘xe4 dxe4 14.c5 ♗e7 15.♕b3 ♘xe5 16.dxe5 ♕c8



17.♗g3!

17.g4 ♗f7∞ and Black is ready for the counter exchange sacrifice on d5 to weaken White's light squares.

17...h6 18.♖fd1 ♔h7 19.♖d6 Engines want to include a4 before this move.

19.a4 ♗f7 20.♗e1 ♖d8 21.♖d6±

19...♗f7 20.a4 ♗xd6 21.cxd6

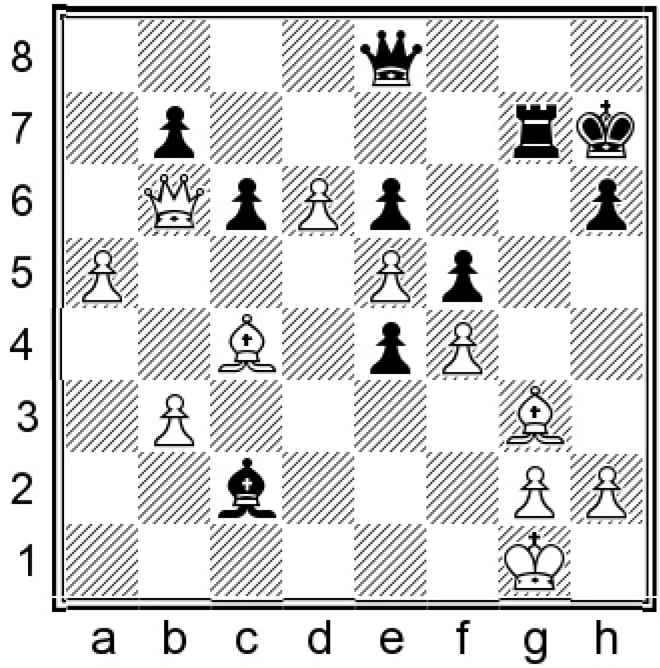
21.exd6? e5⇄

21...♖g8 22.♕b6 g5 23.♖c5 ♖g7 24.♖xa5 ♖xa5 25.♕xa5 ♕e8 Black's attack on the kingside is too slow. White's advantage is overwhelming in the centre and on the queenside. The rest is just neat and fun to watch despite numerous inaccuracies.

26.♕b6 ♗h5 27.♗c4 ♗d1 28.b3 ♗c2 29.a5?!

29.fxg5 hxg5 30.♕a5 ♗d3 31.♗xd3 exd3 32.♕d2±

29...gxf4 30.exf4



30...♕h5??

30...♗d3!∞

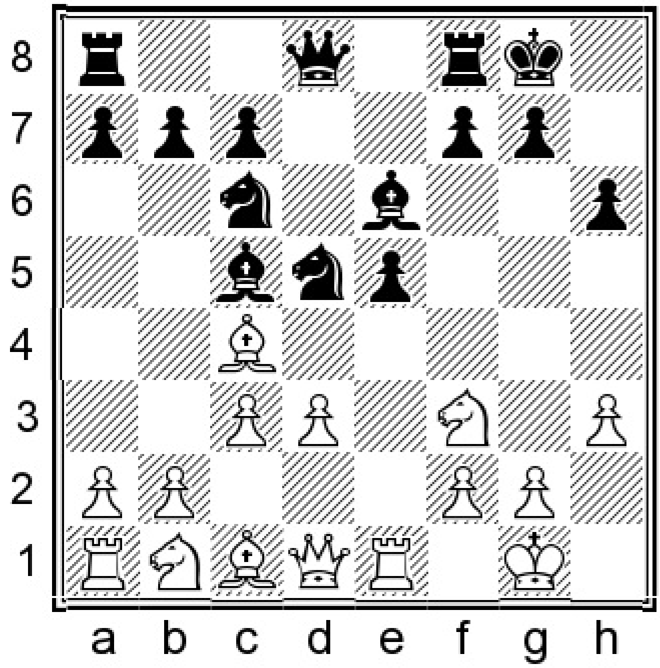
31.♕e3 ♕d1+ 32.♕e1 ♕d4+ 33.♗f2 ♕b2 34.♗xe6 e3 35.♕xe3 ♗e4 36.g3 ♕b1+ 37.♗e1 ♕d1 38.♗c4 h5 39.♕e2 ♕d4+ 40.♔f1 ♔h6 41.♕d2! ♕xd2 42.♗xd2 h4 43.e6 hxg3 44.hxg3 1-0

C54
Aronian, Levon (2782) - Nakamura, Hikaru (2736)
chess24.com (Internet-m/1-rapid), 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.O-O ♘f6 5.d3 O-O 6.h3?! I am not sure if I understand this move. White lets Black to play **6...d5 7.exd5 ♘xd5 8.♖e1 ♗e6 9.c3**

9.♘xe5?? ♘xe5 10.♖xe5 ♗xf2+-+ fails for the same reason Aronian lost this game later!

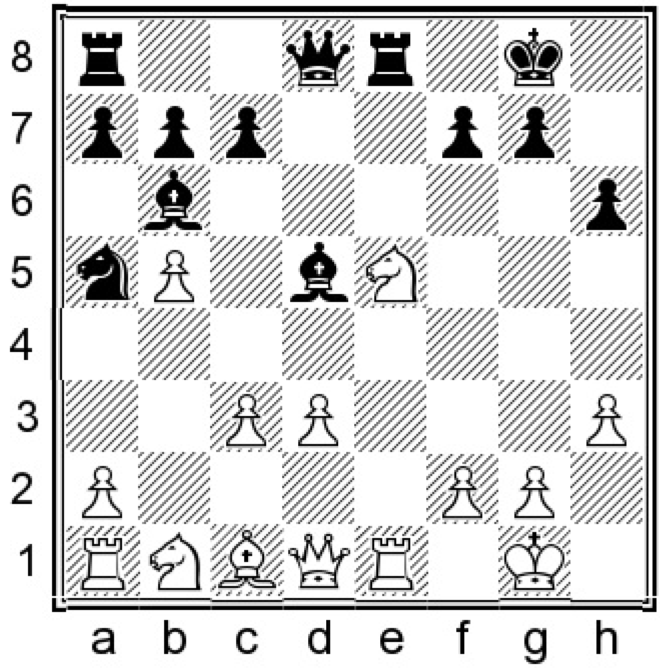
9...h6



10.b4?! I am not sure how good this move is.

10.♘bd2 ♘f4 11.♘e4 ♗xc4 12.♗xf4 exf4 was played with more success for Aronian in the other game of this match where he had the white pieces. 13.dxc4 ♕xd1 14.♖axd1 ♗e7 15.♘d4 ♘xd4 16.cxd4 ♖fe8= Aronian, Levon 2782 - Nakamura,Hikaru 2736, chess24.com (Internet-m/3-rapid) 2021

10...♗b6 11.b5 ♘a5 12.♗xd5 ♗xd5 13.♘xe5 ♖e8



14.♘d2? I like tactics where move orders matter.

14...♗xf2+!

14...♖xe5?? 15.♖xe5 ♗xf2+ 16.♔h1! The point. White does not need to capture on f2. 16...♗g3 17.♖e2 ♕h4 18.♘e4 f5 19.♘xg3 ♕xh3+ 20.♔g1 ♕xg3 21.♖f2+- - and Black's activity does not suffice due to the knight on a5.

15.♔xf2 ♖xe5! 16.♔g1?!

16.♖xe5 ♕f6+ 17.♘f3 ♗xf3 18.♕xf3 ♕xe5 19.♗f4 ♕xb5 20.♔g1 may have been a better try to hold.

16...♕e7 17.♖f1 ♕c5+ 18.d4 ♕xc3 19.dxe5 ♕xa1 20.♘b3 ♕xa2?

20...♘xb3 21.♕xd5 (21.axb3 ♕xe5-+) 21...♘xc1 22.♕xf7+ ♔h8 23.♕f3 ♕c3-+

21.♕xd5 ♕xb3 22.♕d7 ♕e6 23.♕xc7 b6 24.♗f4 ♘b3?

24...♕d5 25.♗g3 ♘c4∓ - and Black begins to regroup. Black has excellent winning chances.

25.♕b7? Loss of a valuable tempo.

25.♗e3 ♘c5 26.♗xc5 ♖c8 27.♕xa7 ♖xc5 28.♕a8+ ♔h7 29.♕e4+∞ would have saved the game.

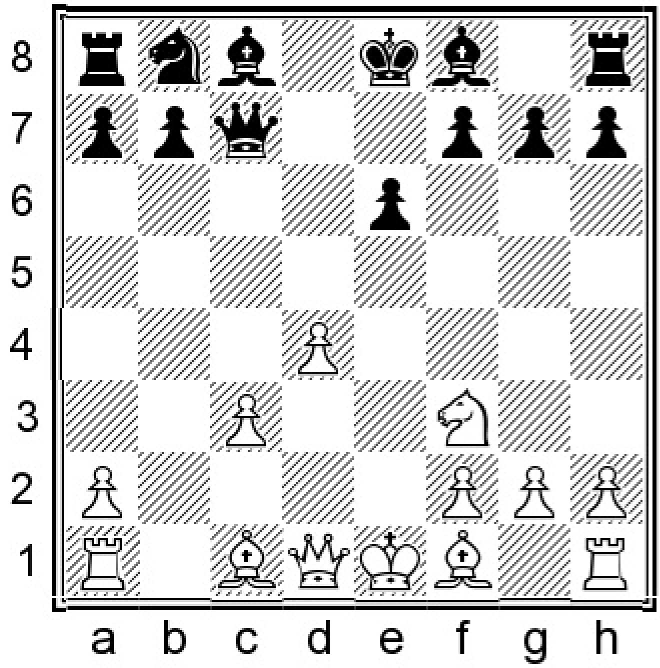
25...♕c8! 26.♕f3 ♘d4 27.♕d5 ♕d8 28.♕b7 ♕c8 29.♕d5 ♘e6 Now Black is fully reorganised. Nakamura converted his advantage masterfully.

30.♗e3 ♖b8 31.♕f3 ♕d7 32.♕g3 ♕d3 33.♖f3 ♕g6 34.♕e1 ♖d8 35.♔h2 ♕e4 36.♕a1 ♖d3 37.♕xa7 ♕xe5+ 38.♔g1 ♖xe3 39.♕xf7+ ♔h7 0-1

D42
Carlsen, Magnus (2855) - Duda, Jan Krzysztof (2756)
chess24.com (Internet-m/1-rapid), 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.♘f3 c5 6.e3 cxd4 7.exd4 ♘xc3!? I find this move to be a very interesting one. It tends to transpose to some form of the Sicilian Alapin, but here the World Champion essayed a very entertaining line.

8.bxc3 ♕c7



9.♖b1!?

9.♗d2 This is the Tabiya. 9...♘d7 10.♗d3 ♗d6 11.O-O b6 12.♖e1 ♗b7 13.♘g5 ♘f6 14.♗b5+ ♗c6 15.♕f3 ♖c8 16.♘xe6 fxe6 17.♖xe6+ ♔d8 18.♗xc6 ♕xc6 19.♗f4 ♕xf3 (19...♘e8 20.♕g4 ♖c7∞) 20.♖xd6+ ♔e7 21.gxf3 ♖xc3 22.♖e1+ ♔f7∞ Vachier Lagrave, Maxime 2790 - Pichot,Alan 2662, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2016

9...♘d7

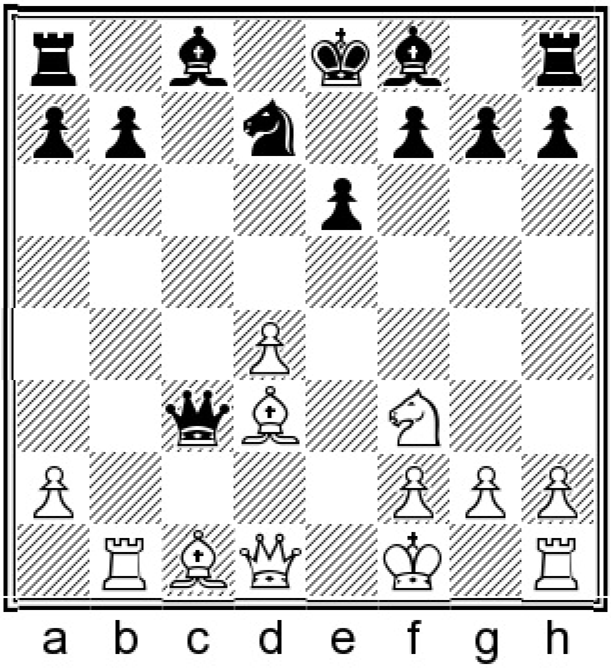
9...♕xc3+?! A bad practical decision. 10.♗d2 ♕c7 11.♗d3 ♗d6 (11...♗e7 12.O-O O-O (12...♘c6 13.♕c2⩱) 13.♕e2 ♘c6 14.♖fc1 ♕d8 15.♖c4 ♗f6 16.h4→) 12.O-O ♘d7 13.♕e2 O-O 14.♖b5 ♖e8 15.♖h5 ♘f6 16.♖h4 e5 (16...g6!?) 17.♖c1 ♕b8 18.dxe5 ♗xe5 19.♖xc8 ♕xc8 20.♘xe5± Salem,A.R.Saleh 2682 - Barp,Alberto 2377, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020

10.♗d3 Engines do not like this move, but I find it quite fascinating.

10.c4 b6 11.♗d3 ♗b7 12.O-O ♗d6 13.♖b5 h6 14.♖e1 O-O (14...a6?! 15.♖h5 O-O-O (15...♘f6? 16.♖h4 Now, White's attack is just winning. 16...♔f8 17.♘e5 ♖d8 18.♕e2 ♔g8 19.♖f4 ♗b4 20.♖d1 ♗e7 21.♗b2 g5 22.♖g4 ♘xg4 23.♘xg4 h5 24.♘e5 ♖h6 25.♖e1 ♗b4 26.♕e3 ♕e7 27.♖e2± Salem,A.R.Saleh 2682 - Barp,Alberto 2377, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020) 16.♗b2 ♗b4 17.♖e2± White is better, but Black is not dead.) 15.♖h5 ♗f4 16.♗xf4 ♕xf4 17.♘e5 ♘xe5 18.♖hxe5 ♖ac8=

10...♕xc3+ It is very hard to resist the temptation of capturing a pawn with a check and preventing your opponent from castling.

11.♔f1



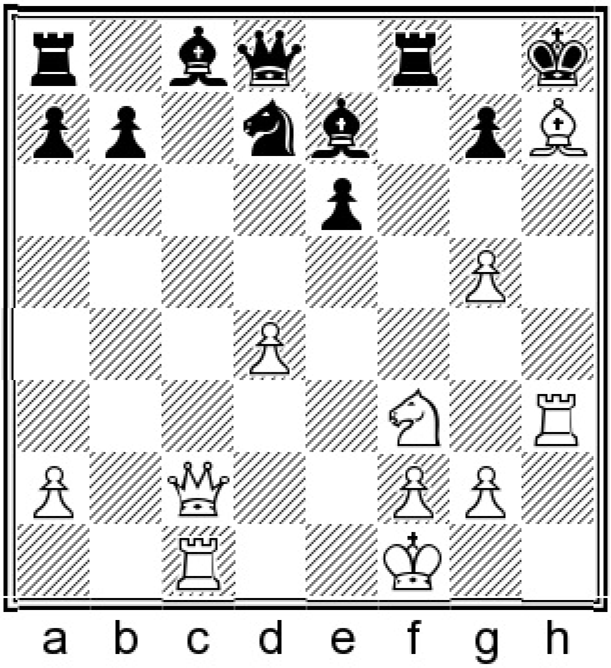
11...♗e7? It makes me laugh to see that engines go from -0.10 to +.5 in a matter of a single move. When such a natural move is an obvious mistake you realise that you are deep in engines territory!

11...♗d6 12.h4 ♕c7 13.♖h3 b6∞ and now Rg3 is not an option.

12.h4! This is the way to bring the rook on h1 to the game.

12...O-O 13.♖h3 ♘f6?? This loses by force.

13...♕c7 14.♗g5 f6 15.♖c1 ♕d8 16.♕c2 fxg5 17.♗xh7+ ♔h8 18.hxg5



18...♖xf3! 19.gxf3 ♗xg5 20.♗f5+ ♗h6 21.♗xe6 ♕f6 22.♗g4 ♘b6∞ The game may practically fizzle to a draw soon.

14.♘e5! ♕a5 15.♖g3 ♔h8 16.♗g5 h6 And now a tiny small cheapo! **17.♗xh6! gxh6 18.♕f3**

18.♕f3 ♕d2 19.♖d1 and once the queen moves there is no defence against Qf4.

1-0

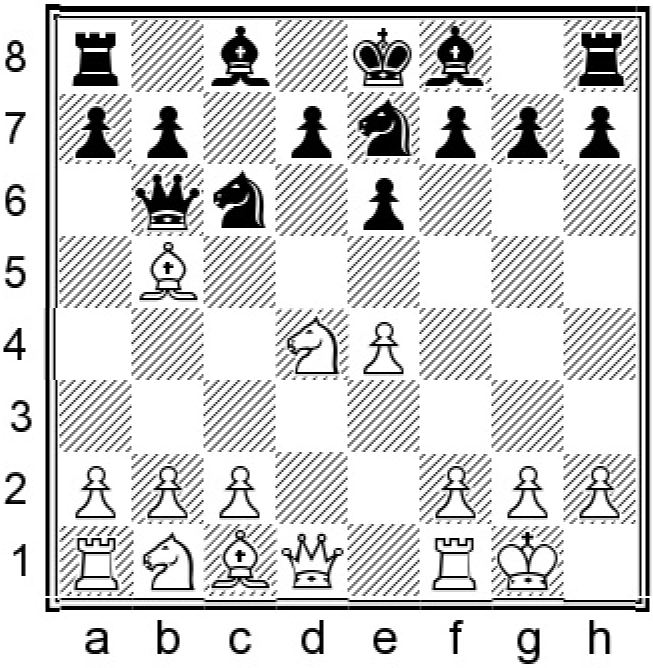
B30
Giri, Anish (2777) - Carlsen, Magnus (2855)
chess24.com (Internet-m/5-blitz), 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 e6 4.O-O ♘ge7 This move order against the Rossolimo is gaining more and more popularity in the recent months.

5.d4 Giri opts for a more concrete and forcing line.

5.♖e1 a6 6.♗f1 d5 (6...b6!?; 6...♘g6!? Korobov already has tried this against Giri, Zagreb (blitz) 2021) 7.exd5 ♘xd5=

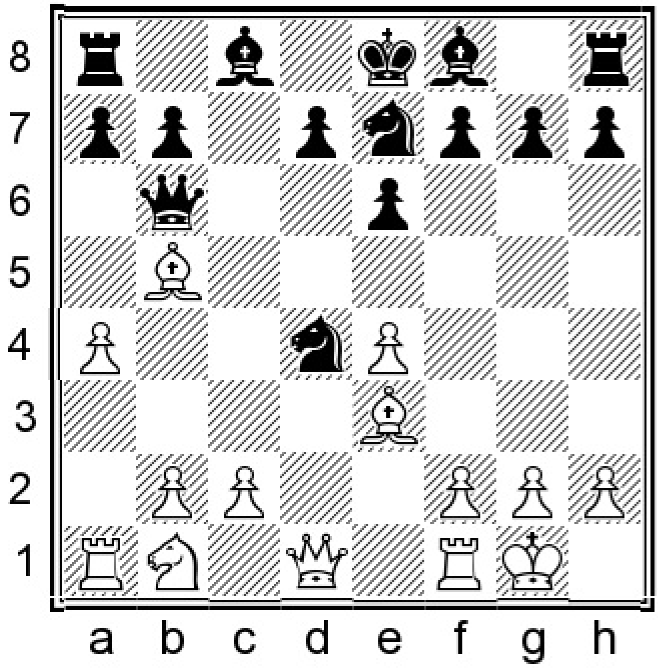
5...cxd4 6.♘xd4 ♕b6



7.♗e3!? Not the most principled move by any stretch but it is a fun move to see.

7.♘xc6 bxc6 (7...♕xb5? Black is hopeless after this due to delay in development. 8.♘d4 ♕b6 (8...♕e5 9.f4! ♕xe4 10.♘c3 ♕g6 11.f5!+- loses in a beautiful fashion.) 9.b3 (9.c4 ♘c6 (9...a6 10.♗e3 ♕c7 11.♘c3 ♘c6 12.♘a4!+-) 10.♘b5 a6 11.♗e3 ♕a5 12.♘d6++-) 9...♘c6 10.♗b2 ♘xd4 11.♗xd4 ♕c6 12.♖e1 d6 13.c4 e5 14.♗b2 ♗e7 15.♘c3 ♗e6 16.♘d5 ♗xd5 17.exd5 ♕b6 18.a4 a5 19.♖c1 ♕c5 20.♖c3! 1 : 0 Shirazi,Kamran 2404 - Okhotnik,Vladimir 2451, Malakoff 2009) 8.♗e2 ♘g6 9.c4 I covered this continuation in the previous volume of the Informant when I wrote an article about the Sinquefield cup! Caruana,Fabiano 2806 - Swiercz,Dariusz 2655, Saint Louis 2021 - 149/37

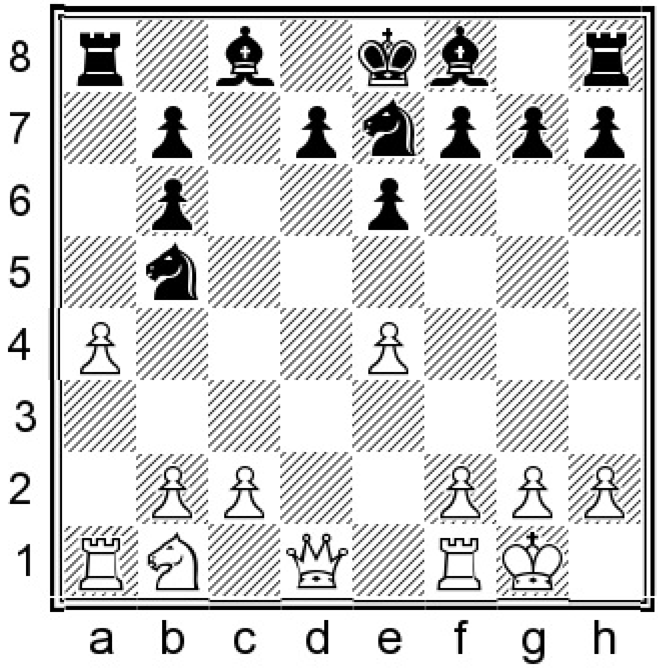
7...♘xd4 8.a4



8...♘xb5?? A very wrong assessment by the World Champion. The arising position is completely lost for Black.

8...e5 9.c3 a6 10.cxd4 axb5 11.♘c3! (11.d5 ♕f6 12.♘c3 ♘g6 13.♘xb5 ♗d6 White's compensation was not enough, but he ended up saving this piece down position. 14.♕d2 h6 15.♗b6 O-O 16.a5 ♘f4 17.g3 ♘h3+ 18.♔g2 ♘g5 19.f3 ♗e7 20.h4 ♘h7 21.d6 ♗d8 22.♗xd8 ♖xd8∞ Campora,Daniel 2521 - Khatanbaatar,Bazar 2507, Istanbul (ol) 2000) 11...bxa4 12.d5 ♕b4 13.d6 ♘c6 14.♘d5 ♕xd6 15.♗b6 ♖a6 16.♘c7+ ♔e7 17.♘d5+=

9.♗xb6 axb6



10.♘d2? You would be surprised to know how much of White's advantage is gone after this move.

10.♕d3! ♘c7 11.♕g3 ♘a6 12.♘a3 d5 Everything has been more or less forced till now. 13.♖fd1 ♗d7 14.♘b5+- Black is completely busted.

10...♘d6! Giri might have missed this move.

11.e5 ♘df5 12.♘e4? In a blitz game with a lot of pressure, playing online, and being behind in the match, Giri plays on the impulse but to no avail. He may have been already disappointed for letting go of his winning position in just two moves.

12.♘c4 ♘d5 13.♕f3 h5 14.♖fd1 ♖h6 15.♘a3 ♗xa3 16.♖xa3 ♘de7 Black is solid but he only defends.

12...♘c6 13.g4 ♘h4 14.f4 h5 15.h3 hxg4 16.hxg4 d5

16...♖a5! 17.c4 g5! 18.♘xg5?? (18.♘d6+ ♗xd6 19.♕xd6 ♖c5∓) 18...♗c5+-+

17.exd6 ♖a5 18.c4 f5! The battle is now getting heated...

19.b4 ♘xb4 20.d7+?!

20.gxf5! ♘xf5 21.♖b1 ♖h4 22.♖xb4 ♘e3 23.♕f3 ♘xf1 24.c5!∞ Engines believe that White is better but none of the moves leading to this position were obvious, nor easy to understand so we better say it was practically unclear.

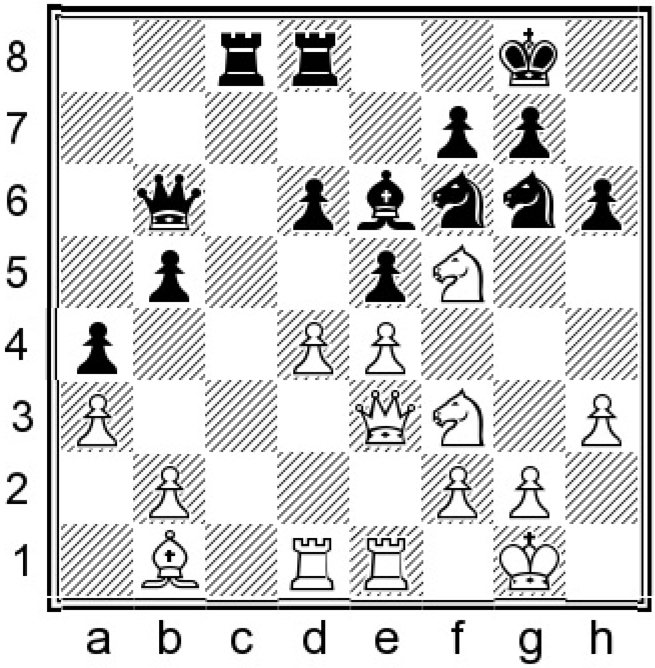
20...♗xd7 21.♘d6+ ♗xd6 22.♕xd6 ♘c6 23.♖ad1?? This obvious move is a massive blunder.

23.♕c7 would have prevented Black from artificial castling.

23...♗c8 24.g5 ♘g6 25.♖f2 ♔f7! 26.♕c7+ ♘ce7 Now Black's pieces are in complete harmony and White's pawns are obvious targets. Carlsen comfortably converted.

27.♖d8 ♖xd8 28.♕xd8 ♖xa4 29.♕c7 e5 30.fxe5 ♗e6 31.♕xb7 ♖xc4 32.♕xb6 ♘xe5 33.♖e2 ♖c6 34.♕e3 ♘5g6 35.♔h2 ♗c4 36.♖b2 ♖e6 37.♕f3 ♖e4 38.♖b7 ♗e6 39.♔g1 ♖g4+ 40.♔h2 ♖xg5 41.♖b6 ♗d5 42.♕e3 ♖g2+ 43.♔h3 ♖g4 44.♔h2 f4 45.♕d4 ♖g5 46.♖d6 f3 47.♖d7 ♖f5 48.♕g4 ♗e6 49.♖d1 ♘e5 50.♕h4 f2 51.♔g2 ♗d5+ 52.♔f1 ♗c4+ 53.♔g2 f1=Q+ 0-1

Radjabov, Teimour (2763) - Aronian, Levon (2782)
chess24.com (Internet-m/2-rapid), 2021



24...♔f8 Sometimes in chess we forget about retreating moves. In this double-blindspot case the two elite players missed Black's simple response.

25.♘xg7?? ♔xg7 26.dxe5 Radjabov might have thought - this is winning now!

26...♕xe3?? And Aronian believed him.

26...♘d7! Black is simply up a piece after 27.exd6 ♕xe3 28.♖xe3 ♘b6 29.e5 ♘c4 30.♖e2 ♘f4 31.♖ee1 ♘xb2∓ and White's pawns start falling.

27.exf6+ ♔xf6 28.♖xe3 ♖c5 29.♘d4 Now White is up a pawn and Radjabov convincingly converted his advantage.

29...♖dc8 30.♖ee1 ♘e5 31.f4 ♘c4 32.♖e2 ♘a5 33.♔h2 ♘b3 34.♘xb3 axb3 35.♖xd6 ♖c2 36.♖dd2 ♖c1 37.e5+ ♔e7 38.♗e4 ♖f1 39.♖f2 ♖e1 40.♗d3 ♗c4 41.♗f5 ♖d8 42.♖xd8 ♔xd8 43.♖d2+ ♔e7 44.♔g3 ♖f1 45.♗g4 ♖c1 46.f5 f6 47.e6 ♖c2 48.♖d7+ 1-0

UNDERSTANDING THE OPENINGS

By GM Nigel Davies

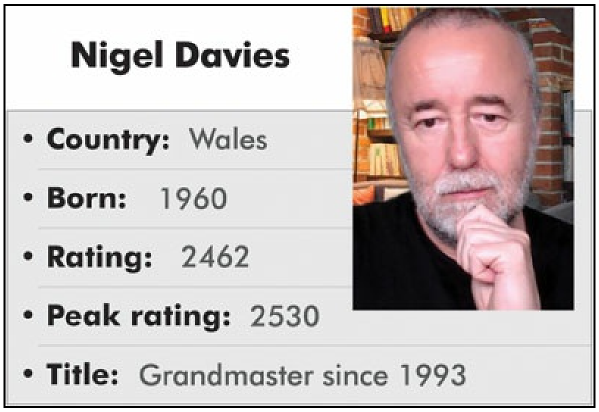
THE SEMI-TARRASCH [D41]

PART II

Other Lines

In my previous article I looked at the main line of the Semi-Tarrasch with 5.cd5 ♘d5 6.e4. This time I will look at some fresh developments in the other lines, including 6.e3 cd4 7.ed4 ♘c3 and the recently trendy 5.e3 a6 6.cd5 ed5 7.g3.

I have also considered Black's responses to the simple developing moves of 5.♗g5 and 5.♗f4, as these need to be handled with great accuracy by Black.



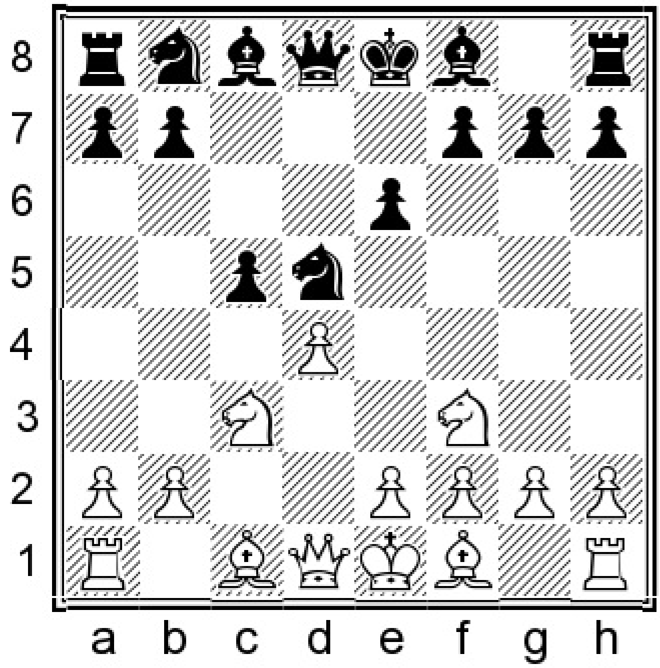
Nigel Davies

- **Country:** Wales
- **Born:** 1960
- **Rating:** 2462
- **Peak rating:** 2530
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 1993

Overall it seems that Black has very reasonable chances in all lines, and this explains why the Semi-Tarrasch has a place in the repertoires of so many strong players.

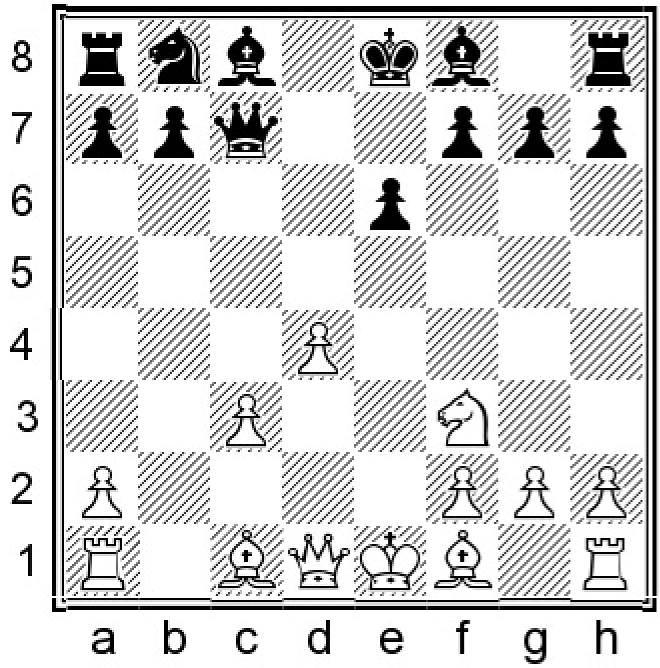
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♘f3 c5

5.cxd5 ♘xd5



6.e3 cxd4 7.exd4 ♘xc3 8.bxc3 ♕c7

6.e3/9.♗d2



9.♗d2 This is thought to be White's most dangerous move, keeping the queen on the d1-h5 diagonal so she may later come out to h5, g4 or even f3.

9.♕c2 is the main alternative.

9...♘d7

It’s interesting that after his loss to Tomashevsky with 9...♘d7 10.a4, Dubov preferred to play 9...♗d6 in this position against Karjakin. The idea might have been to meet 10.a4 with (10.♗d3 ♘d7= Karjakin,Sergey 2748 - Dubov,Daniil 2700, Moscow (TV-m/2-blitz) 2019; 10.♘g5!? is worth considering.) 10...♘c6 to prevent the further advance of White's a-pawn.

10.♗d3

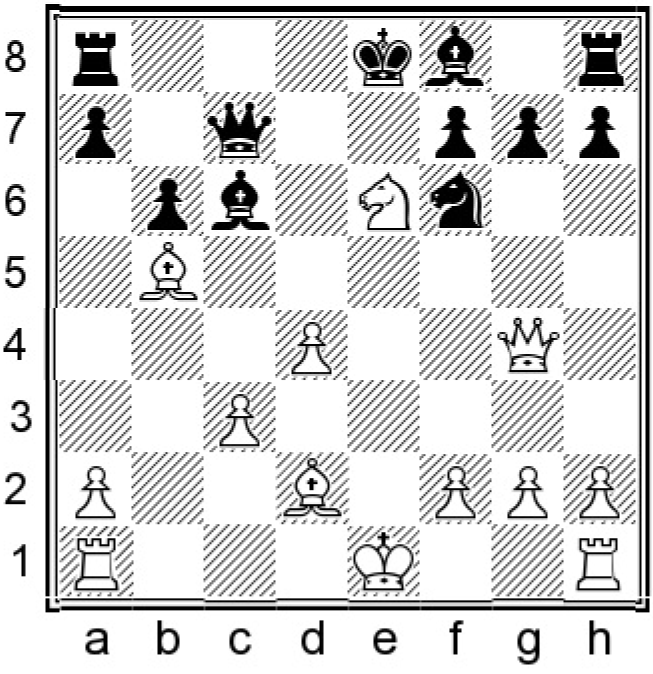
10.a4 ♗d6 11.a5∞ Tomashevsky, Evgeny 2702 - Dubov,Daniil 2691, Russia (ch) 2018 - 137/151

10...b6 11.♘g5 The critical move.

After 11.O-O ♗d6 12.♖e1 ♗b7 Black seems to have a comfortable game, for example 13.c4 O-O 14.♖b1 and now 14...♖fe8= intending 15...e5 seems to give Black full equality. (rather than 14...h6= Kovalenko,Igor 2658 - Keymer,Vincent 2509, Deutschland 2019)

11...♘f6 Preventing White's queen from coming to g4 or h5, but Black seems to be able to allow that too.

11...♗b7 12.♕g4 (12.♕h5 g6 13.♕h3 ♗g7 14.O-O ♘f6 15.♖fe1 O-O∞ leaves both sides with chances.) 12...♘f6 13.♗b5+ ♗c6 14.♕e2 (14.♘xe6



14...♕d6! 15.♗xc6+ ♕xc6 16.♘xg7+ ♔d8!∓ puts White in trouble.; 14.♕f3 ♖c8∓ is also very comfortable.) 14...♗d6 15.O-O ♗xh2+ 16.♔h1 ♗d6∓ was good for Black in Sipos,Istvan 2473 - Papp,Gabor 2582, Magyarorszag (ch) 2019

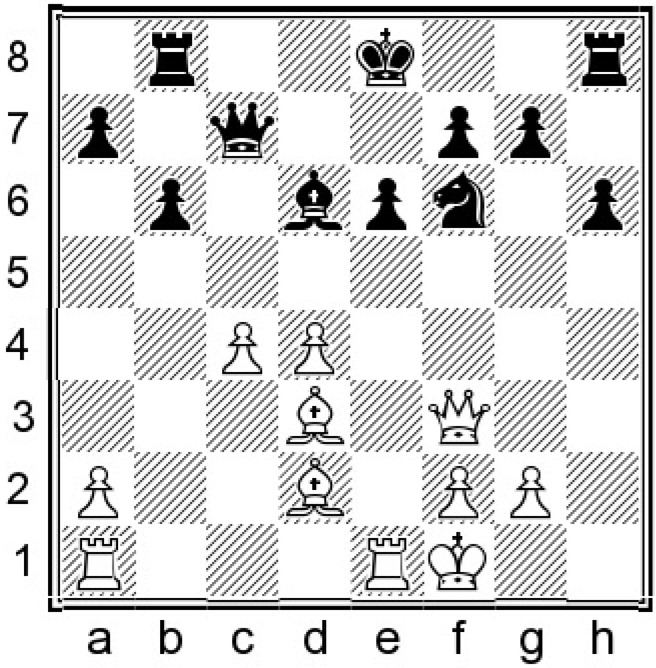
12.♕f3 ♖b8 13.O-O ♗d6 14.♕h3 h6 15.♘f3

An improvement on 15.♖fe1= Aronian,Levon 2781 - Carlsen,Magnus 2850, London 2015 - 127/151

15...♗b7

15...O-O? is strongly met by 16.♗xh6!.

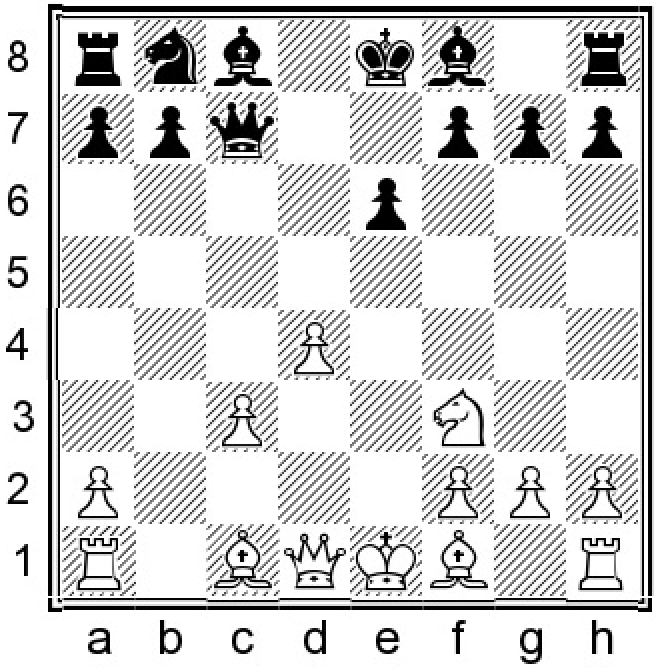
16.♖fe1 ♗xf3 17.♕xf3 ♗xh2+ 18.♔f1 ♗d6 19.c4⩱



gave White compensation for his pawn, as in Radjabov,Teimour 2758 - Ding,Liren 2811, Khanty-Mansiysk (m/5-rapid) 2019

6.e3/9.♕c2

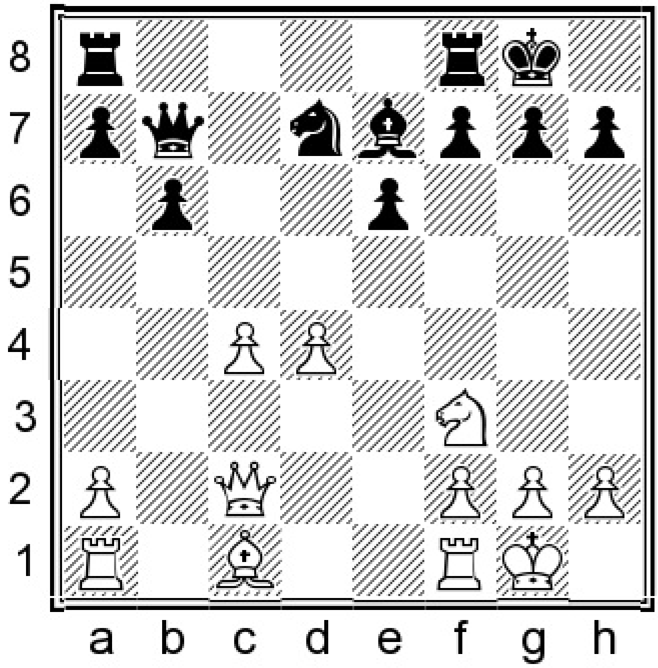
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♘f3 c5 5.cxd5 ♘xd5 6.e3 cxd4 7.exd4 ♘xc3 8.bxc3 ♕c7



9.♕c2

It seems more economical to defend the c3-pawn and develop the queen, but 9.♗d2 keeps the option of bringing the queen out to the kingside.

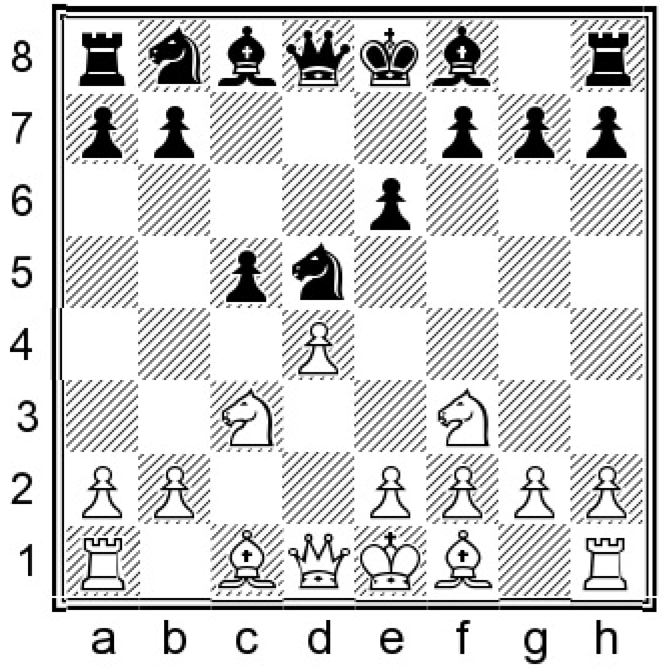
9...♘d7 10.♗d3 b6 11.♗e4 ♗b7 12.♗xb7 ♕xb7 13.O-O ♗e7 14.c4 O-O=



was very comfortable for Black - Erdos,Viktor 2604 - Ragger,Markus 2684, Douglas 2019

6.g3

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♘f3 c5 5.cxd5 ♘xd5



6.g3

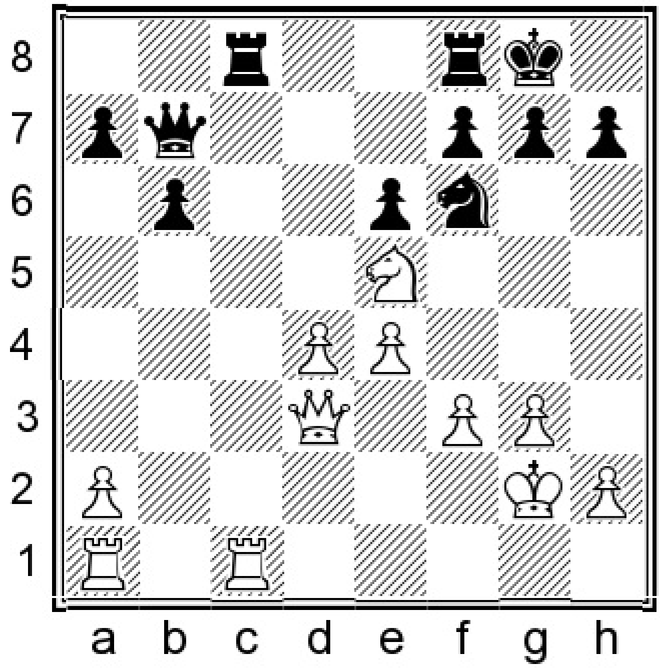
At one time this was thought to be an annoying line for Black, but only until Vladimir Kramnik demonstrated an efficient way to defuse it.

6...♘xc3 7.bxc3 cxd4 8.cxd4 ♗b4+ 9.♗d2 ♗xd2+ 10.♕xd2 b6 11.♗g2 ♗b7 12.O-O O-O 13.♖fc1±

13.a4 ♘c6= was the stem game for this line - Svidler,Peter 2762 - Kramnik, Vladimir 2801, Russia 2016 - 128/152

13.♖fd1 ♘d7 14.a4 ♖b8 15.♕b4 ♘f6 16.♖ac1 ♕d5 17.♖c7 ♕d8 18.♖cc1 ♕d5 19.♖c7 ♕d8 20.♖cc1 1/2 : 1/2 Bu,Xiangzhi 2718 - Ma,Qun 2629, China 2018

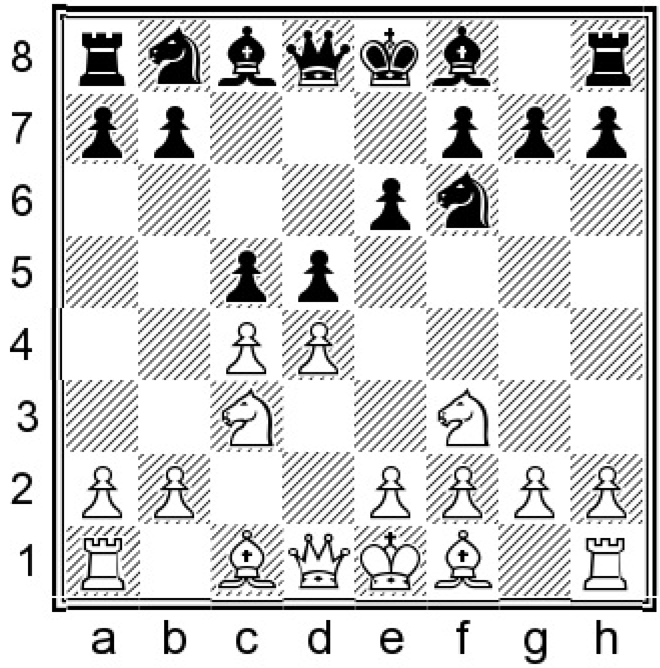
13...♘d7 14.♕d3 ♘f6 15.♘e5 ♗xg2 16.♔xg2 ♕d5+ 17.f3 ♖ac8 18.e4 ♕b7±



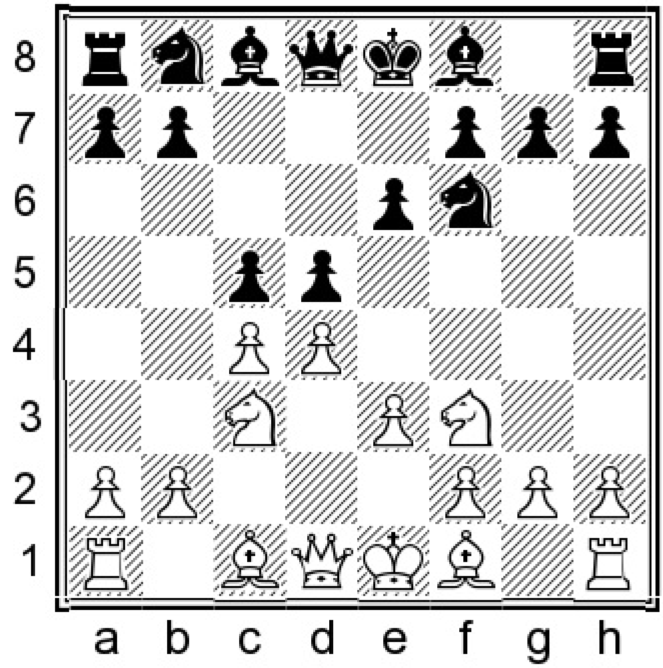
left White with only a slight edge in Aronian,Levon 2775 - Ding,Liren 2801, London 2019

5.e3

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♘f3 c5



5.e3



5...a6!

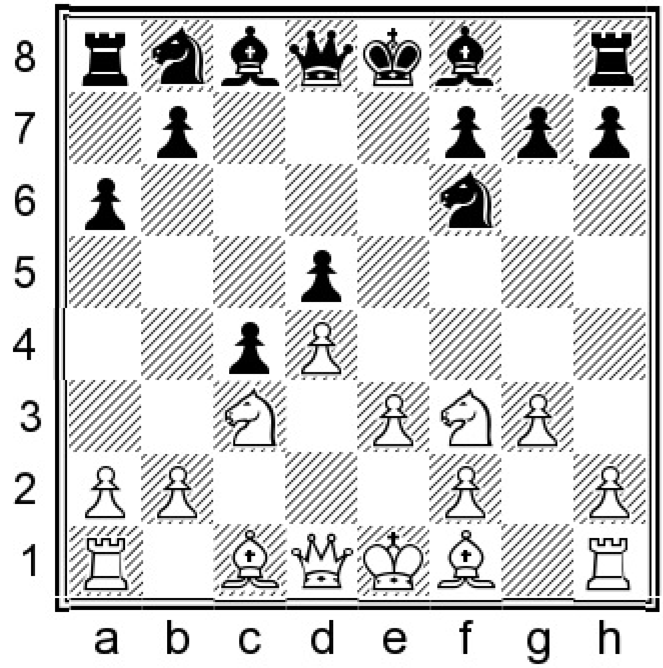
5...♘c6 6.cxd5 ♘xd5 would preclude the set-up with ...cd4 and ...Nc3 - the b8-knight wants to go to d7 rather than c6. So, Black needs to have 5...a6 in his repertoire if he also wants to meet 5.cd5 Nd5 6.e3 with 6...cd4 7.ed4 Nc3

6.cxd5 exd5 7.g3 This is now seem as White's most promising try, placing the bishop from where it pressurizes d5.

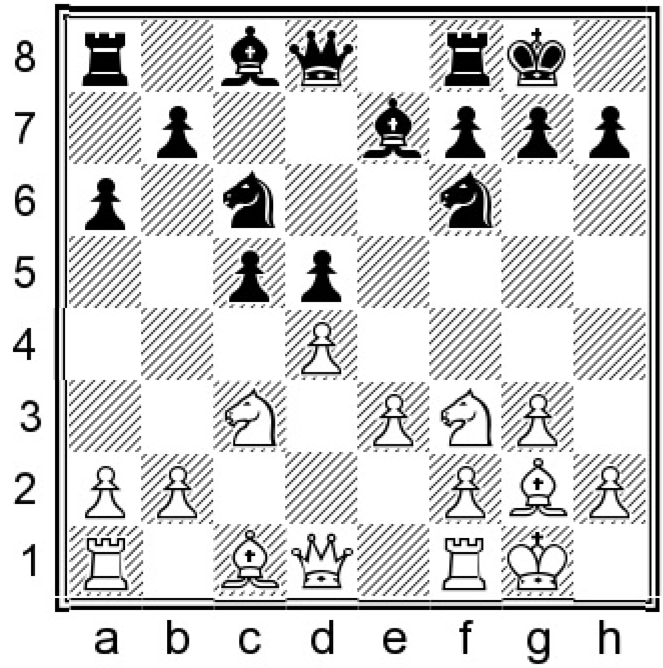
Alternatives do not achieve much here, for example: 7.♗e2 ♘c6 8.O-O ♗d6 9.dxc5 ♗xc5 10.b3 O-O 11.♗b2 ♕d6= Prusikin,Michael 2441 - Yakovich,Yuri 2592, Fuerth 1999 - 76/(377)

7.dxc5 ♗xc5 8.♗e2 O-O 9.O-O ♘c6 10.b3 ♕d6 11.♗b2 ♖d8= Agzamov,Georgy - Simic,Radoslav 2485, Beograd 1982 - 34/475

7...c4!?



Black has also played 7...♘c6 but White seems to have some pressure after 8.♗g2 c4! (8...♗e7?! 9.O-O O-O



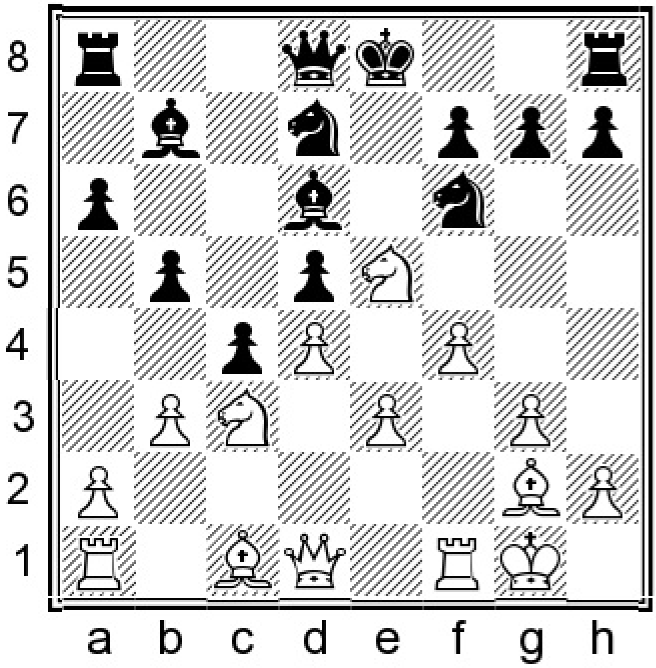
10.dxc5 (10.♘e5!? ♗e6 (10...♕c7) 11.♘xc6 bxc6 12.dxc5 ♗xc5 13.b3± Howell,David 2665 - Prusikin,Michael 2534, Deutschland 2020 - 144/127) 10...♗xc5 11.b3 ♗e6 (11...♖e8 12.♗b2 ♗g4 13.h3 ♗f5 14.♘e2= Abasov,Nijat 2655 - Georgiadis,Nico 2529, Deutschland 2020 - 144/(127)) 12.♗b2 ♕e7 13.♖c1 ♖ac8 14.♘a4∞ Ivanisevic,Ivan 2608 - Todorovic,Goran M 2417, Srbija (ch) 2020)

8.♘e5!? An interesting new try.

Previously White had played 8.♗g2, for example 8...♗b4! 9.♘e5 ♘c6 10.O-O O-O 11.♗d2 ♖e8

12.♘xc6 bxc6 13.b3 a5 (13...♗xc3 14.♗xc3 ♘e4 15.♕e1 (15.♗b4 a5 16.♗a3 cxb3 17.axb3 ♘g5 18.♗c1 ♗h3 19.♗xh3 ♘xh3+ 20.♔g2 ♘g5 21.h4=) 15...a5 16.bxc4 ♗a6!= Fernandez,Jorge Luis - Firsching, Guenter, corr 2019/20 - 145/122) 14.♕c2 cxb3 (14...♗a6) 15.axb3 g6 16.♖fc1 ♗f5 17.♕d1 ♕d6∞ Carlsen,Magnus 2845 - Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar 2790, Shamkir 2019 - 145/(122)

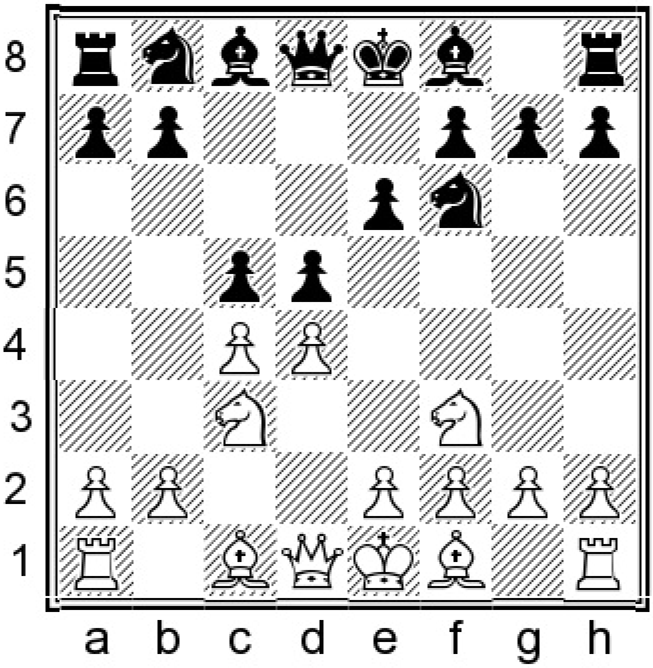
8...b5 9.♗g2 ♗b7 10.O-O ♗d6 11.b3 ♘bd7 12.f4∞



gave rise to complex play in Howell,David 2694 - Brkic,Ante 2600, Batumi 2019

5.♗g5

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♘f3 c5



5.♗g5 This natural developing move requires accurate handling by Black.

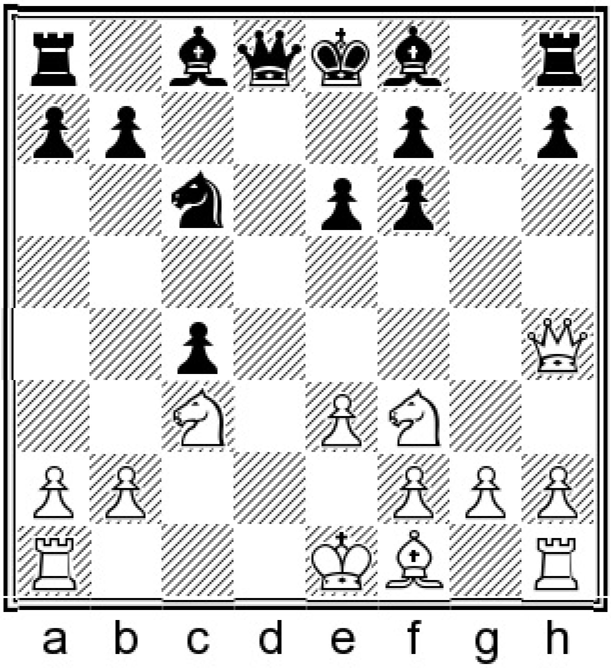
5...cxd4 6.♕xd4

6.♘xd4 is met by 6...e5, for example 7.♘f3 (7.♗xf6 gxf6 8.♘c2 d4 9.♘d5 ♘c6 10.e4 f5∞ also seems promising for Black.) 7...d4 8.♘xe5 (After 8.♘d5 there follows 8...♗e7 9.♘xe7 ♕xe7 10.e3 ♗g4 11.♗e2?! d3!∓) 8...♘c6 9.♘xc6 bxc6 10.♘b1 (10.♘e4? ♘xe4 11.♗xd8 ♗b4+-+ wins immediately.) 10...♖b8↑ with a powerful initiative for the sacrificed pawn.

6...♘c6 7.♗xf6

Or 7.♕h4 ♗e7 8.O-O-O ♕a5∓ etc.

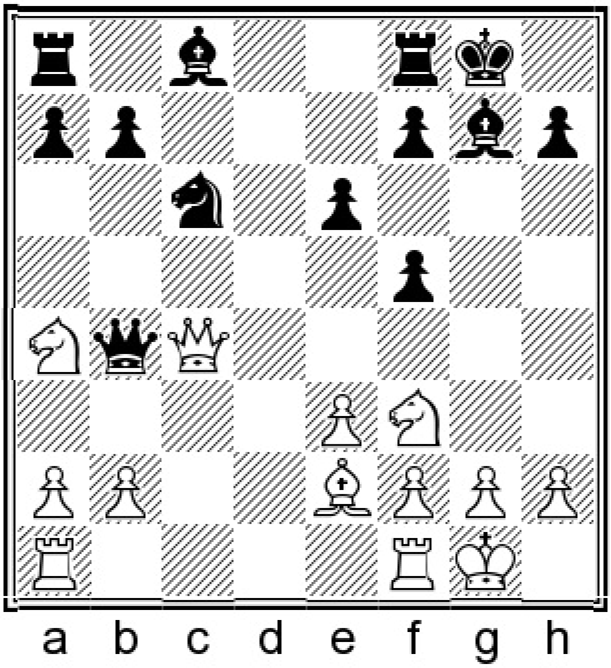
7...gxf6 8.♕h4 dxc4 9.e3



9.♖d1 ♕a5!? (9...♗d7=) 10.♕xc4 ♕b4∓ was Drozdovskij,Yuri 2627 - Mastrovasilis,Athanasios 2519, Novi Sad 2009

9...f5! Offering a queen swap makes sense when Black has the bishop pair but an insecure king. When White declines Black gets the h8-a1 diagonal for his dark-squared bishop.

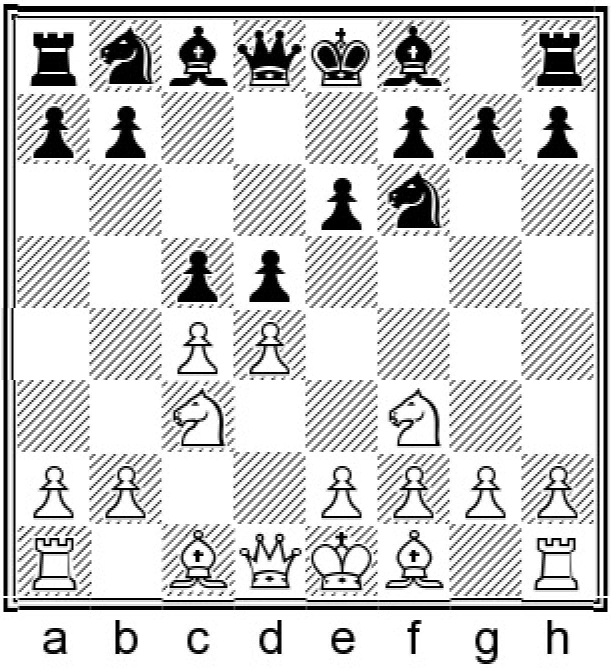
10.♕xc4 ♗g7 11.♗e2 O-O 12.O-O ♕b6 13.♘a4 ♕b4= and Black had comfortable play.



Mareco,Sandro 2581 - Peralta,Fernando 2593, Buenos Aires 2012

5.♗f4

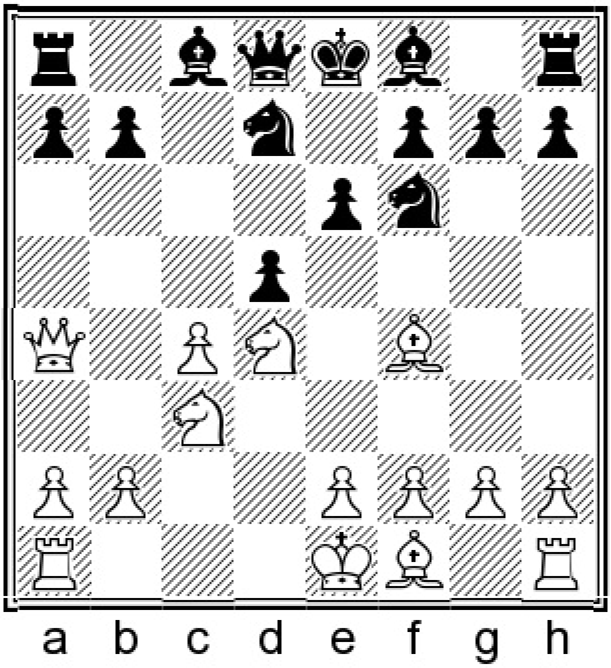
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♘f3 c5


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

5.♗f4 Another natural developing move which Black needs to handle accurately.

5...cxd4 6.♘xd4 ♘bd7! The start of a very accurate sequence. Black is threatening to win a piece with ...e5.

7.♕a4

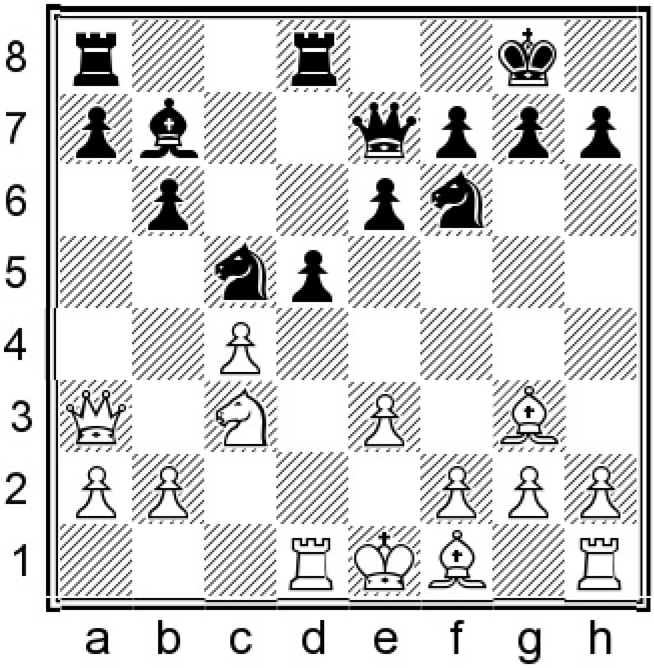

8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

7...♗c5! Again emphasizing fast development and threatening the knight on d4.

8.♘b3

8.cxd5 would be met by 8...O-O! 9.♘b3 ♘xd5 (Another interesting possibility is 9...♘b6 10.♕b5 ♗e7 11.dxe6 fxe6!↑, with a strong initiative for the pawn.) 10.♘xd5 exd5, for example 11.e3 ♕e7 12.♘xc5 ♘xc5 13.♕a3 d4= with fully equal play.

8...O-O 9.♘xc5 ♘xc5 10.♕a3 b6 11.♖d1 ♗b7 12.e3 ♕e7 13.♗g3 ♖fd8=



left White having to tread carefully in Nisipeanu,Liviu Dieter 2672 - Fridman,Daniel 2633, Baden-Baden 2014

C78 RUY LÓPEZ

Arkhangelsk Variation

By GM Miloš Perunović

New Ideas in the Arkhangelsk Ruy Lopez

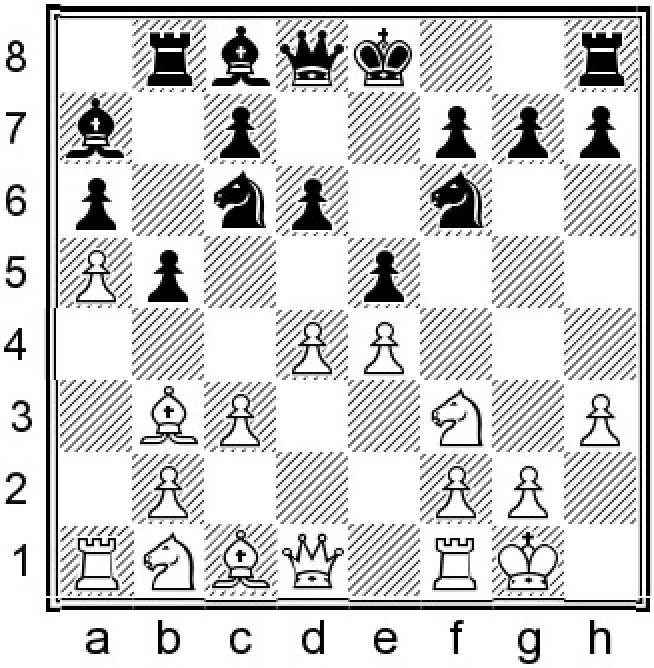
Miloš Perunović

- **Country:** Serbia
- **Born:** 1984
- **Rating:** 2538
- **Peak rating:** 2641
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 2004

In this Informant edition I would like to touch a very topical theme and explore in some detail much discussed line of the Arkhangelsk Variation.

I hope that my commentary of some recent developments will help you to refresh your own repertory and understand the crucial ideas well.

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O b5 6.♗b3 ♗c5 7.a4 ♖b8 8.c3 d6 9.d4 ♗b6 10.a5 ♗a7 11.h3

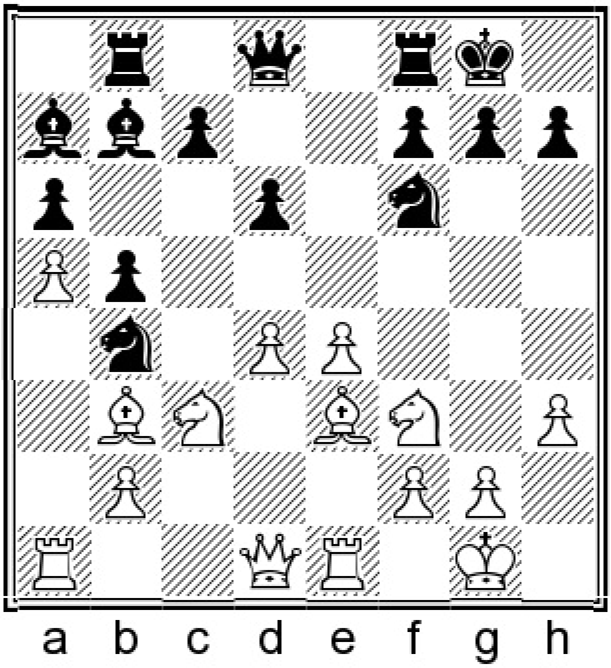


11...♗b7!?

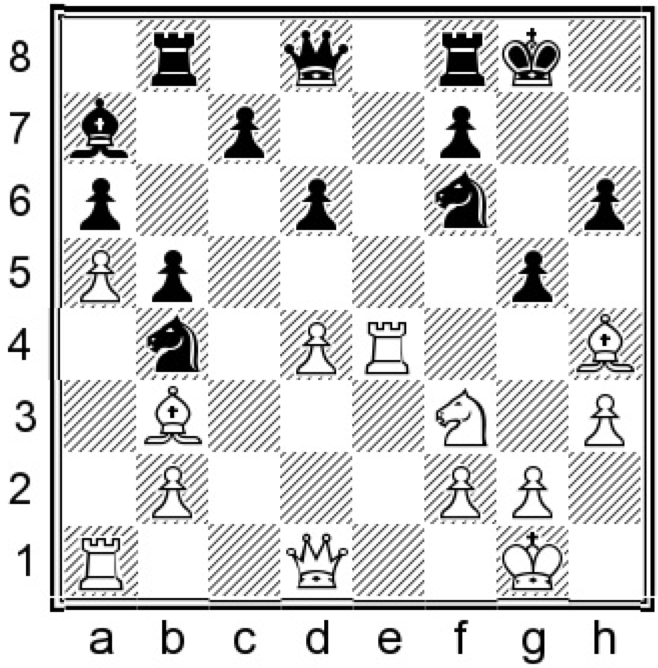
The main continuation is 11...O-O 12.♗e3 ♖a8 Black is forced to lose a tempo in order to protect the bioshop on a7, so he could develop his light-square bishop next. 13.♘bd2±

12.♗e3

12.♖e1 O-O (12...♘e7 13.♗g5) 13.♗e3 (13.♗g5 h6 14.♗h4 g5 15.♗g3 ♖e8 16.dxe5 ♘xe5 17.♗c2 ♘h5∞) 13...exd4 Black is not obliged to lose time for Ra8, so he can attack White's centre right away. 14.cxd4 Now, Black faces an important dilemma. Should he jump with his knight to e7 or b4? The e7-square is surely a more secure choice, though sightly passive one. On the other hand, from b4 the knight controls the c2- and d3-squares, thus stopping White from defending the central e4-pawn in the easiest way. Also, after the c5-move, the c5-c4 becomes a serious threat, so the knight jump to b4 must be connected with the c5-advance. Otherwise, Black may face problems preserving this precious knight. 14...♘b4 (14...♘e7 15.e5! ♘fd5 16.♗g5 dxe5 17.dxe5 ♖e8 18.♘c3 ♘b4 (18...♘xc3 19.bxc3 ♕xd1 20.♖axd1± Giri,Anish 2777 - Aronian,Levon 2782, chess24.com (Internet-m/1-rapid) 2021) 19.♕e2 (19.♘h4!?↑) 19...♕d3 20.♖ad1 ♕xe2 21.♖xe2± ↑ White has the initiative. Threats are Rd7 and e6.) 15.♘c3

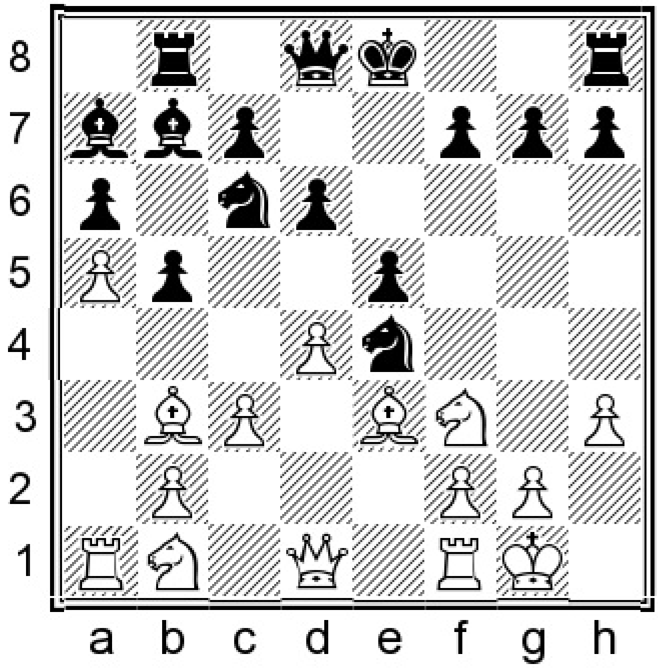


(15.d5 c5 (15...♗xe3 16.♖xe3 c5) 16.dxc6 (16.♘bd2 h6∞) 16...♗xe3 17.cxb7 ♗c5 18.♘c3 ♖xb7= Black managed to solve all the problems in Navara,David 2691 - Sethuraman,SP 2620, Riga 2021) 15...♗xe4! (A schematic knight capture leads to difficulties for Black. 15...♘xe4? 16.♘xe4 ♗xe4 17.♗d2! ♗xf3 18.♕xf3 c5 19.♖ad1 c4 20.♗xb4 cxb3 21.♕g3±) 16.♗g5 (16.♘xe4 ♘xe4 17.♖c1 (17.d5 ♗c5!∓) 17...♖c8 Apparently, White does not have sufficient compensation for the pawn.) 16...♗g6 17.♘e4 ♗xe4 18.♖xe4 h6 19.♗h4 (19.♗xf6 ♕xf6 20.♕d2 d5 21.♖g4 ♘c6 22.♗xd5 ♖bd8=) 19...g5



20.♖f4!? Unfortunately, this brilliant rook move does not secure any advantage for White. (20.♘xg5 ♘xe4 21.♕h5 hxg5 22.♕g6+ ♔h8 23.♕h6+=) 20...gxf4 Black must accept the sacrifice and then a series of only moves begins. 21.♕d2 ♕d7 22.♗xf6 ♕f5 23.♗e7 ♖fe8 24.♖e1 ♘c6 25.♗c2 ♕d7 26.♗f6 ♖xe1+ 27.♘xe1 ♕e6 28.♕xf4 ♗xd4 29.♕xh6 ♕xf6 30.♗h7+ ♔h8 31.♗g6+ ♔g8 32.♗h7+=

12...♘xe4



Black's main idea. He is ignoring the d5-threat and goes for complications involving a piece sacrifice.

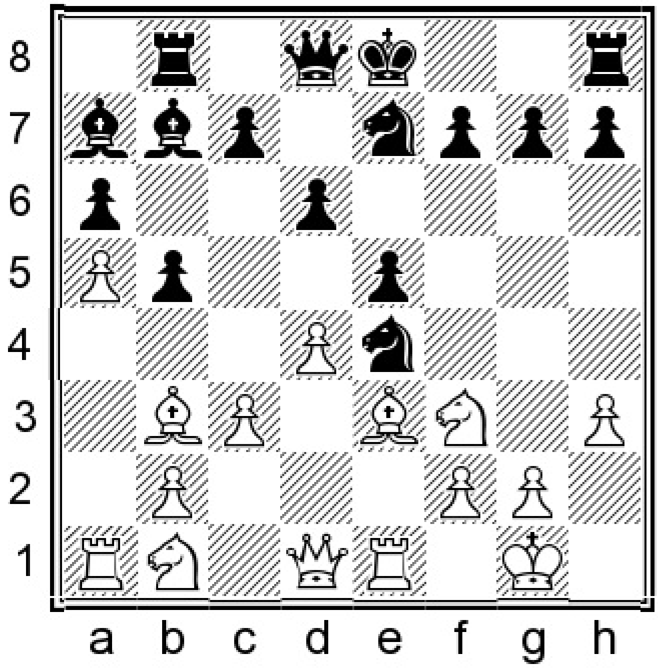
13.♖e1

13.♘bd2 exd4! (13...♘xd2 14.♕xd2 O-O 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.♕xd8 ♖bxd8 17.♗xa7 ♘xa7 18.♘xe5 ♗d5

19.♗c2 ♘c6 20.♘xc6 ♗xc6 21.♖ad1 ♖fe8 22.♖xd8 ♖xd8 23.♖d1 ♖xd1+ 24.♗xd1= Objectively, this endgame is pretty equal. Though the World Champion managed to clinch a victory! Carlsen,Magnus 2855 - Firouzja,Alireza 2754, Stavanger 2021) 14.cxd4 ♘xd2 15.♕xd2 O-O 16.♖fe1 ♕d7 17.d5 ♗xe3 18.♕xe3 (An interesting attempt is 18.♖xe3!? ♘e7 (18...♘e5 19.♘xe5 dxe5 20.♖xe5 ♖fe8 21.f4↑) 19.♖ae1 ♘f5 20.♖c3 ♖fe8 21.♖ec1 ♖bc8 22.♘d4 (22.♕c2 h6 23.♖xc7 (23.g4 ♘e7 24.♖xc7 ♖xc7 25.♕xc7 ♖d8=) 23...♖xc7 24.♕xc7 ♕xc7 25.♖xc7 ♖e7=) 22...♘h4 23.♗d1=∞ White has enough compensation for the pawn.) 18...♘e5 19.♘xe5 dxe5 20.♕xe5 ♖bd8= Vachier Lagrave,Maxime 2763 - Shirov,Alexei 2659, Riga 2021

13.d5 Surely the most concrete way of fighting Black's concept. 13...♗xe3 14.dxc6 ♘xf2 15.♕e2 (15.♕d5?! ♕f6! (15...O-O 16.cxb7 ♘e4+ 17.♔h2 ♗f4+ 18.♔g1 ♗e3+ 19.♔h2 ♗f4+ 20.♔g1 ♗e3+ 1/2 : 1/2 Anton Guijarro,David 2675 - Grischuk,Alexander 2777, chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2020) 16.♖xf2 (16.cxb7?? ♘e4+-+) 16...♗c8 17.♕d3 (17.♘bd2 ♗e6 18.♕e4 ♗xf2+ 19.♔xf2 ♗xb3 20.♘xb3 O-O∓) 17...♗xf2+ 18.♔xf2 ♗e6 19.♗xe6 ♕xe6∓) 15...♘xh3+ 16.♔h1 ♘f2+ 17.♖xf2 ♗xf2 18.cxb7 (18.♕xf2 ♗xc6 19.♘xe5 ♗xg2+ 20.♔g1 ♕f6 21.♘xf7 ♕xf2+ 22.♔xf2 ♖f8 23.♔xg2 ♖xf7 24.♗xf7+ ♔xf7 Now, we have a rather complicated ending on the board, with three pawns for the piece. Computer evaluates it 0.00, but it is extremely hard to say who has better chances in a practical game. 25.♘d2 An important move. Black prevents White from connecting his pawns by pushing 25...b4! (25...♖e8 26.♖f1+ ♔g6 Duda,Jan Krzysztof 2748 - Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi 2726, Krasnaya Polyana (m/2) 2021 - 149/120) 26.c4 ♖e8= Nihal,Sarin 2655 - Arjun,Kalyan 2503, Riga 2021 - 149/(120)) 18...♗a7 19.♗d5 ♕d7! With the c6-threat in mind. (19...O-O?! 20.c4!±) 20.♘d4 (20.♕e4? f5! (20...♔f8? Vachier Lagrave,Maxime 2760 - Aronian,Levon 2781, Paris (blitz) 2021 - 149/(118)) 21.♕h4 c6 22.♗b3 ♖f8-+) 20...♕e7 (20...O-O? 21.♘c6 ♖xb7 22.♘d2±; 20...♗xd4? 21.♕f3! An important in between move that prevents the c6-push. 21...O-O 22.cxd4 exd4 23.♘a3± with the threat of Bc6 with Nb5) 21.♗c6+ ♔f8 22.♘f3 d5! Black is fighting for air, trying to prevent a complete blockade. 23.♕xe5 (23.♗xd5 c6 24.♗xc6 ♕e6 25.♗e4 f5 26.♘a3 fxe4 27.♕xe4 g5! Black is intending to mobilize his forces in most rapid manner. 28.c4 b4 29.♘c2 ♖g8∓ with the threat of Rg6.) 23...♕xe5 24.♘xe5 ♔e7 Right on time! The black king arrives on time. 25.♗xb5 (25.♘d3 ♔d6 26.♘b4 ♗c5 27.♘xa6 ♔xc6 28.♘xc5 ♔xc5 29.a6 b4 30.♘d2 bxc3 31.bxc3 ♔b6 32.a7 ♖xb7 33.a8=Q ♖xa8 34.♖xa8 c5∞) 25...axb5 26.a6 ♔d6 27.♘xf7+ ♔c6 28.♘e5+ ♔d6 29.♘f7+ ♔c6 30.♘e5+ ♔d6 31.♘f7+ 1/2 : 1/2 Grischuk,Alexander 2778 - Giri,Anish 2776, Zagreb (rapid) 2021 - 149/118

13...♘e7



13...exd4 14.cxd4 d5 15.♘bd2 ♘e7 16.♘xe4 dxe4 17.♘g5 ♗d5 18.♘xe4!? (18.♗xd5 ♕xd5 19.♖c1 ♖c8 20.♘xe4 O-O 21.♘c5 ♗xc5 22.♖xc5 ♕d7 23.♕g4 ♖cd8 24.♖ec1 c6∞) 18...O-O (18...♗xe4?! 19.♗g5 h6 (19...f5 20.♕h5+ g6 21.♕h6 ♗xd4 22.♖ad1 c5 23.♔h1+- With the f3 idea in mind.) 20.♗h4 f5 (20...g5? 21.♖xe4 gxh4 22.♕h5 ♖f8 23.♖ae1+-) 21.g4! ♕d7 (21...g5? 22.gxf5 ♗xf5 (22...gxh4 23.♖xe4+-) 23.♕h5+ ♔d7 24.♗g3+-) 22.♖c1!→ The last inactive piece comes into the game. The threat is 23.gf5, and then after 23...Qf5 24. Rc7. The black king is forced to remain in the centre under heavy fire of the white army. It is not obvious if the black king can survive.) 19.♗f4 ♖c8 20.♗c2 ♘g6 (20...♕d7?? 21.♘f6+! gxf6 22.♖xe7 ♕xe7 23.♕g4+ ♔h8 24.♕f5 1 : 0 Chen,Qi b 2479 - Arjun,Kalyan 2532, tornelo.com (Internet-rapid) 2021) 21.♗e3∞

14.♘bd2!?

14.dxe5 ♗xe3 15.♖xe3 O-O! (15...dxe5? We do not witness such mistakes in the games of elite players so often. Most likely, there was a sudden lack of focus. 16.♖d3 ♘d6 17.♘g5 ♘d5 18.♘xf7! ♘xf7 19.♗xd5 ♗xd5 20.♖xd5 ♕h4 21.♘d2± Volokitin,Andrey 2652 - Aronian, Levon 2782, Riga 2021) 16.♘bd2 (16.♗c2 ♘c5 17.♘bd2 (17.exd6 ♘d5!↑) 17...♘d5 18.♖e1 ♘f4 19.♘e4 ♖e8∞) 16...♘c5 17.♗a2 ♘f5 18.♖e2 ♘d3 19.♗b1 dxe5 20.♗xd3 ♕xd3 21.♘xe5 ♕d6 22.♘df3 ♖bd8 23.♕c2 g6∞

14...♘xd2 15.♗xd2 O-O

If Black tries to preserve the pawn, his position would be in a total disarray. 15...e4? 16.♘g5 d5 17.♖xe4! dxe4 18.♘xf7 ♕d7 19.♘xh8+-

16.dxe5 dxe5

16...♘g6? 17.♘g5! dxe5 18.♕h5 ♗xf2+ 19.♔xf2 ♕xd2+ 20.♖e2 ♕f4+ 21.♔g1 ♕h4 22.♕xh4 ♘xh4 23.♘xf7 c5 24.♗e6±

17.♘xe5 ♘g6 18.♗e3

18.♘xg6 hxg6 19.♗e3 ♗xe3 20.♖xe3±

18...♘xe5

18...♗xe3 19.♖xe3 ♕g5 20.♕g4 ♕xg4 21.hxg4 ♘xe5 22.♖xe5± The threats being Rc5 and Rc7. The active piece play and better pawn structure secure some advantage for White.

19.♕xd8 ♖bxd8 20.♗xa7 ♘d3 21.♖e7 ♗d5 22.♗xd5 ♖xd5 23.♖xc7 ♘xb2 24.♗b6 The rook on the 7th rank and weak a6-pawn guarantee White a slight edge. The play may continue with: **24...♘c4 25.♖a7**

25.♖e1!?

25...h5 26.♖xa6 ♖d6 27.♖b1 ♘xa5 28.♖xa5 ♖xb6 29.♖axb5 ♖xb5 30.♖xb5 ♖c8 31.♖b3±

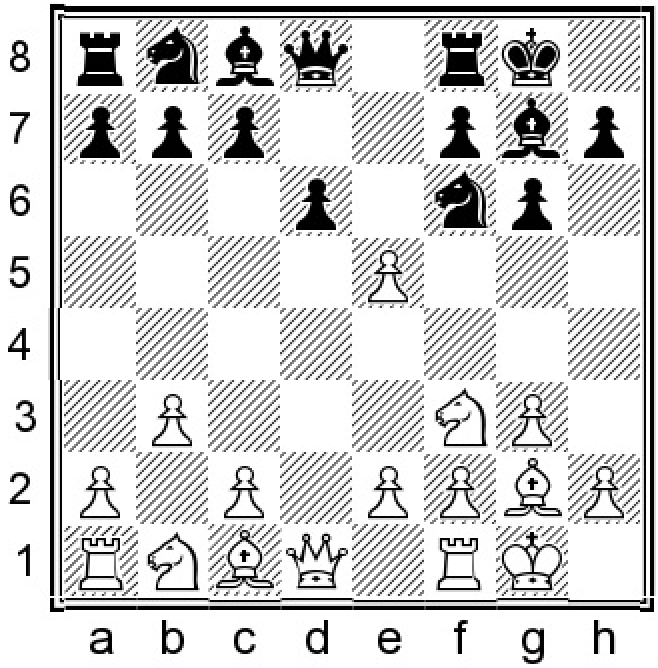
DEVELOPMENTS

By GM Krisztián Szabó

KING’S INDIAN, FIANCHETTO [A49]

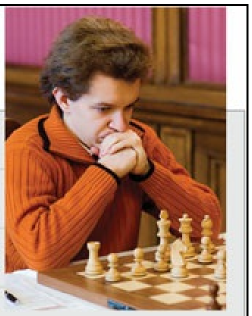
Part I

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.g3 ♗g7 4.♗g2 O-O 5.O-O d6 6.b3 e5 7.dxe5



This line was played first in the Vasilly Smyslov - Miguel Najdorf game, Zuerich (ct) 1953, which ended in a quick draw. White prepares a queenside fianchetto, while retaining the option of transposing to a more mainstream line with c4 at any moment. Compared to the normal King's Indians after 6.b3 White doesn't hurry with c4, but he prefers to develop his bishops with g3, Bg2 and b3, Bb2 which is called double fianchetto. That way he can exert more pressure on the centre. Even so, Black will naturally play Re5 or Rc5, but White hopes that the bishop will be just as good on b2. After 7.de5 Black doesn't lose his pawn, as he wins it back without any consequences, because the g7-bishop pins on the long diagonal all the time.

Krisztián Szabó



- **Country:** Hungary
- **Born:** 1989
- **Rating:** 2480
- **Peak rating:** 2564
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 2010

Without further ado let's dive deep into the analysis!

7...♘fd7

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.g3 ♗g7 4.♗g2 O-O 5.O-O d6 6.b3 e5 7.dxe5 ♘fd7?!

7...dxe5 see the following games.

I have to mention 7...♘g4!? also, because it is a very popular continuation. 8.♗g5 (8.♗b2 ♘c6 is transposing to another main line.) 8...♕e8 9.♘c3 White has a quick development, while Black's queenside is completely undeveloped. However, the positon is a rather complicated one. 9...♘a6 (9...c6? 10.♕xd6 ♘xe5 11.♘e4 ♘xf3+ 12.exf3+- Meier,Georg 2628 - Iskandarov,Misratdin 2525, tornelo.com (Internet-blitz) 2020) 10.♘d5 dxe5 11.h3 f6!∞ Black has a flexible pawn structure which compensates him for the undeveloped queenside.

8.♗g5

8.♘c3 is the another straighforward option. 8...♘xe5 9.♘xe5 ♗xe5 10.♗b2 c6 (10...♘c6 11.♕d2 ♖e8 12.♖ad1 a5 13.♖fe1± Dreev,Alexey 2660 - Chigaev,Maksim 2551, Russia (ch-blitz) 2016) 11.e4 f5 12.f4 ♗g7 13.♖b1 ♘a6 (Zvjaginsev,Vadim 2602 - Bykov,Oleg 2362, Russia 2020) 14.♔h1±

8...♕e8 9.♘c3 dxe5

9...h6?! could have been met by 10.♘d5! hxg5 11.♘xc7 ♕d8 (Ristic,Nenad 2325 - Marjanovic,Slavoljub 2505, Smederevska Palanka 1980 - 29/111) 12.♕xd6!? g4 13.e6 ♘a6 14.♘xa8 gxf3 15.e7± and White looks nicely placed.

10.♘d5 White's knight arrives very quickly and he is much better developed than Black.

10...♘a6 Black has to protect the c7-pawn.

11.♘e7+ White would like to get the bishop pair.

11.e4 (Chigaev,Maksim 2531 - Onischuk,Vladimir 2601, Tallinn (blitz) 2016) 11...f6 12.♗d2 ♘dc5 13.♕e2 ♗e6 14.b4 ♘a4 15.c4 ♖f7∞;

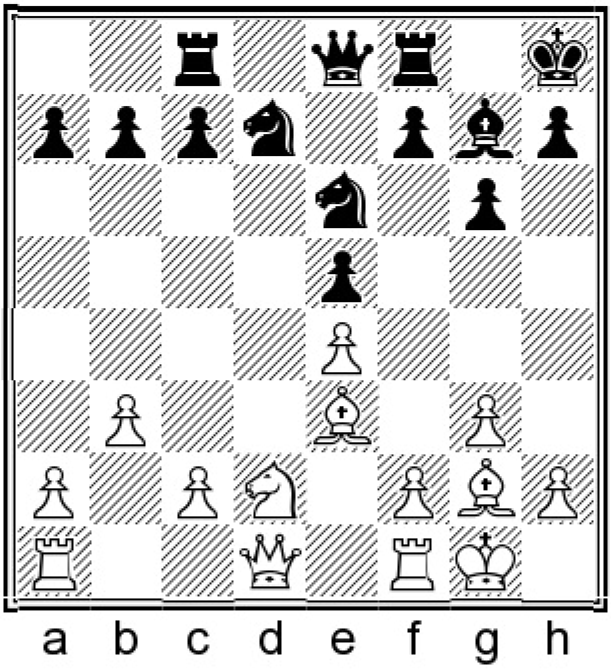
11.♗e7!? is also possible to win the exchange, but it leads to a more complicated position. 11...e4 12.♘g5 c6 13.♗xf8 ♕xf8 14.♘f4 ♗xa1 15.♕xa1 f5 16.♖d1 ♕g7 17.♕c1± and White is also slightly better here, since Black couldn't finish his development, Teske,Henrik 2515 - Kernazhitsky,Leonid 2438, Pardubice 1999

11...♔h8 12.♘xc8 ♖xc8 13.e4 ♘ac5

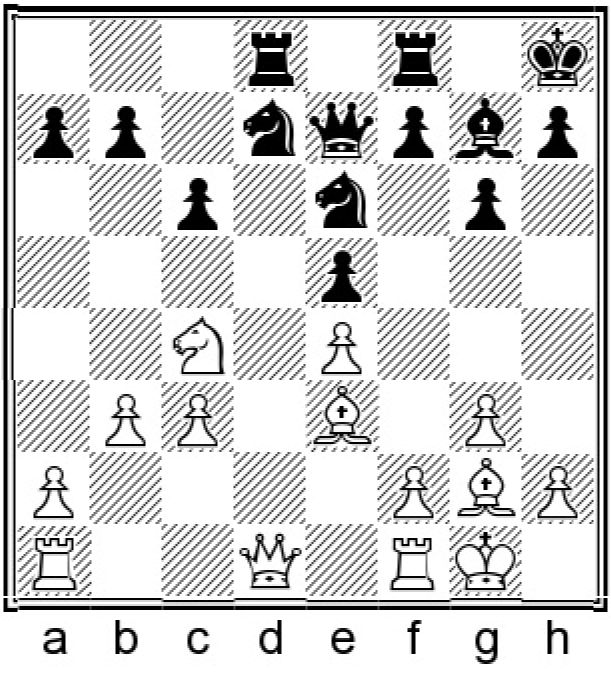
13...♕e6?! 14.♕e2 f6 (14...♘ac5 15.a4↑) 15.♗e3 ♖fd8 16.♘d2 ♗f8 (Meier,Georg 2484 - Fruebing, Stefan 2306, Deutschland 2006) 17.♘c4 ♗c5 18.h4±

14.♕e2!?

14.♘d2?! ♘e6 15.♗e3



15...f5 (15...♕e7?! 16.c3 (16.♕e2 ♘d4 17.♗xd4 exd4 18.♖ac1 ♖cd8 19.♘c4 ♘b6 20.♘xb6 axb6 21.a4∞) 16...f5 (16...c6?! 17.♘c4 ♖cd8



18.♕d6!? (18.♕e2 f5 19.♖ad1 f4 20.♗c1 ♘dc5 21.♖xd8 ♖xd8 22.♖d1 b5 23.♘a5 ♖xd1+ 24.♕xd1 ♕c7 25.b4 ♘a4 26.♕d3 c5 27.♕d5 ♘f8 28.♗d2 cxb4 29.cxb4 a6 30.♗h3 ♘b6 31.♕d3 h5 32.♕c3 ♕e7 33.♕c6 ♕d8 34.♕c2 ♘h7 35.gxf4 exf4 36.♗g2 (36.♗xf4? ♕h4!-+ Matlakov,Maxim 2694 - Onischuk,Vladimir 2601, Doha (rapid) 2016) 36...♕d6=) 18...♕xd6 19.♘xd6 ♘dc5 20.♖ad1±) 17.exf5 gxf5 18.f3 ♘f6 19.♕c2 ♘d5∓) 16.♘c4 f4 17.♗c1 ♘b6 18.♘b2 ♖d8∓;

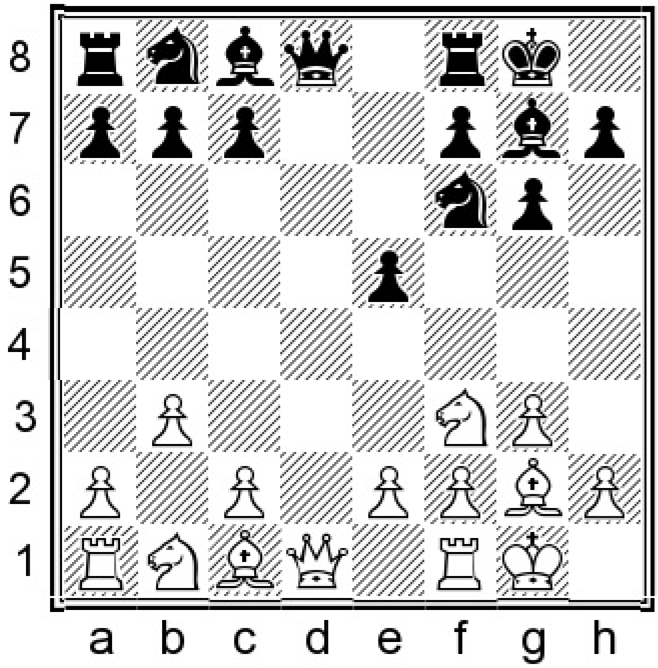
14.♗h3!? b6 15.♕e2 h6 16.♗c1 f5? 17.exf5 gxf5 18.♘h4!+-

14...f5 15.exf5 gxf5 16.♖ad1 ♘e6 17.♗c1 e4 18.♘h4 ♘d4 19.♖xd4 ♗xd4 20.♗h3=∞

7...de5

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.g3 ♗g7 4.♗g2 O-O 5.O-O d6 6.b3 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5

This is the most popular and accurate continuation.



8.♗b2

8.♗b2 White develops with his other bishop on the long diagonal as well.

8.♘xe5?! would be too dangerous for White, because of 8...♕xd1 (8...♘g4!? 9.♘xg4 ♗xa1 10.♘h6+ ♔g7∞ Utkin,Vladimir 2042 - Mirzoeva,Elmira 2239, Saint Petersburg 2010) 9.♖xd1 ♘g4 10.♘xg4 ♗xa1 11.♘e3 ♗f6 12.♘d5 ♗d8∓ and White doesn't have enough compensation for the material down.

8.♗a3 see 8.Ba3 games.

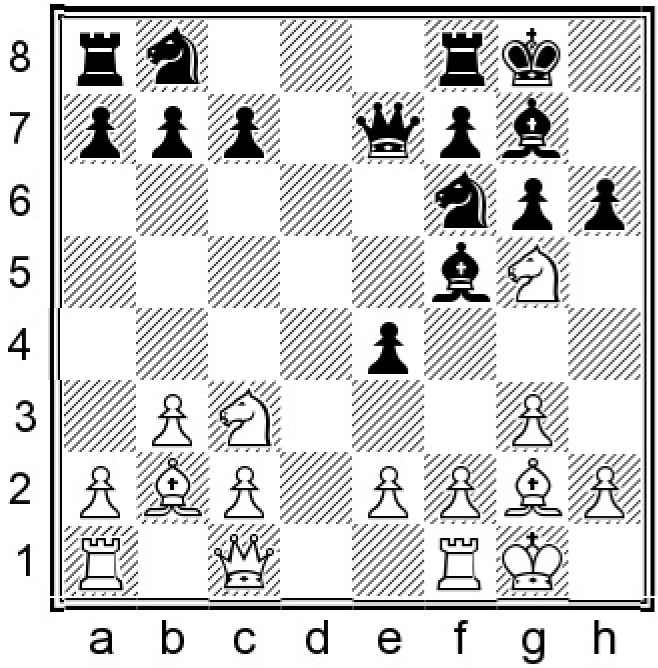
8...e4 Black immediately grabs the initiative. **9.♘g5**

9.♘fd2 seems to be too passive, 9...♕e7 10.♕e1 ♖e8 11.♘c4 ♘a6 12.♘e3 c6∓ and White's pieces are not coordinated.

In case of 9.♕xd8 ♖xd8 10.♘fd2 (10.♘g5 ♖e8 11.♘c3 h6 12.♘h3 (Kovalev,Vladislav 2639 - Onischuk,Vladimir 2637, Riyadh (blitz) 2017) 12...♘a6∓) 10...♗f5 11.♘c4 ♘c6 12.♘c3 ♘d4 13.♘e3 ♘g4∓ and Black has a really active position, Li,Chao b 2746 - Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar 2761, Moscow (blitz) 2016

9...♗f5 In this variation it is very rare when Black's light-squared bishop develops, because in that case the b7-pawn is usually in danger because of the g2-bishop. However, this is an exception because Black has already played ...e4 and closed the diagonal of the g2-bishop.

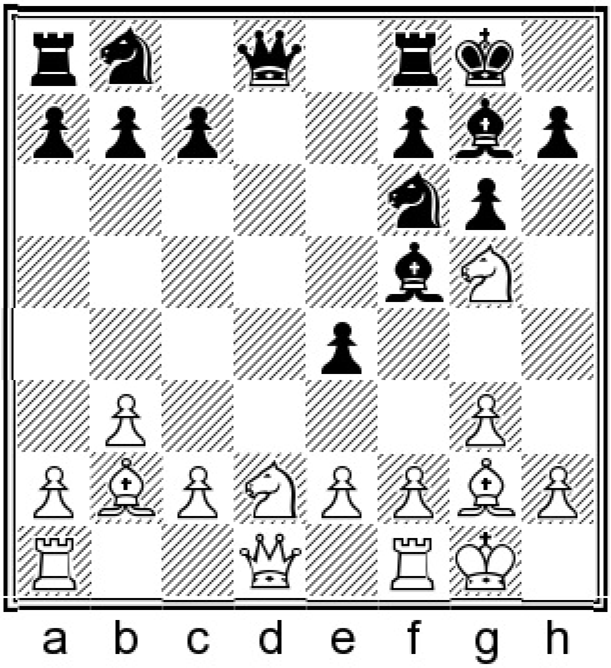
9...♕e7!? 10.♘c3 ♗f5 11.♕c1 (11.♘cxe4? (Mamedov,Rauf 2689 - Onischuk,Vladimir 2608, Lviv (rapid) 2017) 11...♘xe4! 12.♗xg7 ♖d8!-+ and thanks to this in between move Black wins a piece.) 11...h6



12.g4! (12.♘h3?! ♘c6 13.♗a3 ♕e5! 14.♗xf8 ♖xf8 15.♘d1 ♘d4∓) 12...♘xg4 13.♘gxe4 ♗xe4 14.♘xe4 f5⇄

10.♕xd8

10.♘d2?!



10...♘c6! (10...♖e8 11.♘dxe4 ♕xd1 12.♘xf6+ ♗xf6 13.♖axd1 ♗xg5 14.♗xb7 ♗e4 15.♗xa8 ♗xa8 16.h4 ♗e7 17.♗e5 ♘a6∞ Kappe,Markus - Kasparov,Garry 2323, Cagnes-sur-Mer 1977) 11.♘c4 (11.♘dxe4? loses a piece, because of 11...♘xe4 12.♗xg7 (12.♕xd8 ♖fxd8! It was important to take with this rook, as after Bg7 it would be hanging. 13.♗xg7 ♘xg5-+) 12...♕xg5 13.♗xf8 ♖xf8-+ and Black is obviously winning.) 11...h6 12.♘h3 (12.♗xf6 ♕xf6 13.♘xe4 ♕xa1∓) 12...♕c8 13.♘f4 ♖d8∓ Black has a really strong position, Panocki, Adrian 2369 - Korobov,Anton 2623, Pardubice (rapid) 2009

10...♖xd8 11.g4

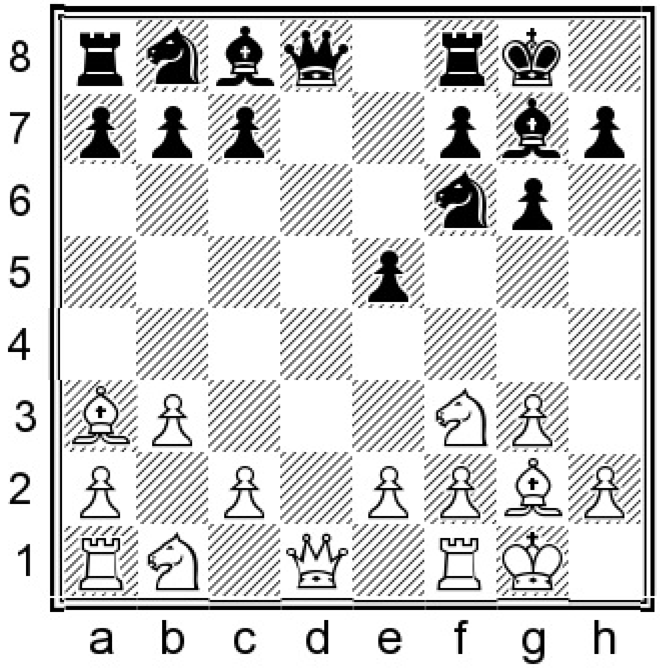
11.♘a3 h6 12.♖ad1 ♘bd7 13.♘h3 c6∓ Espig,Lutz 2420 - Casper,Thomas 2430, DDR (ch) 1984

11...♗xg4 12.♘xe4 ♘xe4 13.♗xg7 ♔xg7 14.♗xe4 c6∞ Kasatkin,Pavel 2204 - Bogachkov,Igor 2275, Omsk 2006 - 98/(39)

8.♗a3 ♕d1/11...c6

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.g3 ♗g7 4.♗g2 O-O 5.O-O d6 6.b3 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.♗a3

Compared to the 8.♗b2 line White would like to develop the bishop gaining a tempo.



8...♕xd1

8...♖e8 This is the most natural reply, but White can gain some advantage after this. 9.♕xd8 ♖xd8 10.♘c3 ♘c6 (10...♖e8 11.♖ad1 c6 (Martin,Andrew 2420 - Watson,William 2555, Walsall 1992) 12.♘d2 ♗e6 (12...♗f5 13.♘c4!±) 13.♘ce4±) 11.♖ad1 ♗f5 12.♘h4 ♗d7 (12...♗xc2!? Black can capture the pawn, but after that his position will be also a bit worse. 13.♖c1 ♗f5 14.♘xf5 gxf5 15.♗xc6 bxc6 16.♖c2± Mikhalevski,Victor 2581 - Iniyan,Panneerseluam 2456, Gibraltar 2019) 13.♖d2 ♗e8 14.♖fd1 ♖xd2 15.♖xd2± and White has a slight edge, Dreev,Alexey 2670 - Carnicelli,Valerio 2241, Villorba 2019

9.♖xd1 ♖e8 10.c4 Before the developing Nc3 White wants to play this pawn move. This is the most principled option, but not the only one.

10.♗b2 e4 11.♘e5 ♘bd7 (11...♘g4!? 12.♘c4 ♗xb2 13.♘xb2 f5 14.♘c3 ♗e6∞ Dreev,Alexey 2662 - Iljiushenok,Ilia 2534, Russia 2019) 12.♘c4 ♘c5 13.♘ba3 ♗e6 14.♗d4 b6∞ Navarovszky,Laszlo - Lilienthal,Andor, Balatonfured 1960

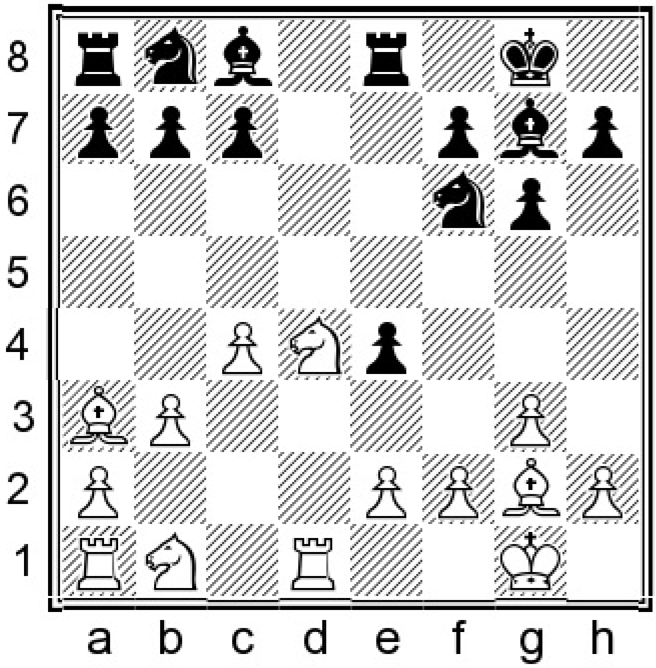
10.♘c3 ♘a6 In these positions this is the most precise option, since Black develops and neutralises the Nb5 threat. (10...a6 Black avoids Nb5, but this is too slow and he drops behind in development. 11.♘d2 (11.e4 ♘c6 12.♘d5 ♘xd5 13.exd5 e4 14.dxc6 ♗xa1 15.♘g5∞ Kramnik,Vladimir 2777 - Vovk,Yuri 2617, Berlin (blitz) 2015) 11...♘bd7 12.♘c4 e4 13.♖ab1± and White is slightly better, because Black couldn't finish his development, Meier,Georg 2654 - Vovk,Yuri 2617, Berlin (blitz) 2015; 10...e4 11.♘d2 (11.♘d4 a6 12.e3 ♘bd7 (Cosma,Ioan 2468 - Navrotescu,Catalin 2451, Romania (ch) 2001) (12...b6!? 13.♖d2 ♗b7 14.♖ad1 ♘bd7 15.♘de2 ♘e5⇄ Meskovs,Nikita 2582 - Heberla,Bartlomiej 2572, Panevezys 2020) 13.♖d2 c5 14.♘de2 b5 15.♗b2∞) 11...e3 12.fxe3 ♘a6 13.♘f1 (13.♖ab1 ♘g4 14.♘d5 ♘xe3 15.♘xe3 ♖xe3 16.♘c4 ♖e8∞ Pajeken,Jakob Leon 2323 - Zelbel,Patrick 2445, Deutschland 2020) 13...c6 14.e4 ♗e6⯹ Fridman,Daniel 2633 - Moranda,Wojciech 2593, Katowice (rapid) 2017) 11.♘d2 ♖b8 The rook protects the b7-pawn, so now the c8-bishop can develop. (11...e4!?) 12.♘b5 ♗g4 13.f3 ♗d7 14.c4 (Cordova,Emilio 2655 - Sevian,Samuel 2587, Saint Louis 2017) 14...e4⇄

10...e4 Black grabs the initiative right now. It is not the only possible continuation, but surely the most tempting one.

10...♘c6 This is a straightforward continuation, but White can still try to fight for an advantage after 11.♘c3 e4 12.♘e1 e3 (12...♗f5 13.♖ac1 e3 14.f3 and at some point the pawn on e3 might become a target.) 13.f3 ♗f5 14.g4 ♗e6 15.♗b2± and White's position is more comfortable as here also the e3-pawn can be weak long term, Sargissian,Gabriel 2672 - Hansen,Torbjorn Ringdal 2408, London 2017

10...a5!? is an interesting alternative to prepare for ...Na6 and he is ready to play ...a4 in a good moment. 11.♘c3 ♘a6 12.♖ac1 e4 13.♘d4 (Hakobyan,Aram 2588 - Vitiugov,Nikita 2722, chess.com (rapid) 2020) 13...♗h6 14.e3 c6∞ with a balanced middlegame.

11.♘d4



11...c6 Too solid.

11...e3 12.f3 ♘a6 13.♘c3 c6 14.♖ac1 h5 15.h4 ♗f8 16.♗xf8 ♔xf8 (Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi 2693 - Le,Quang Liem 2739, Tbilisi (m/2) 2017) 17.♘a4±

Black should try something active play like 11...♘g4! (as in the following games) because if White manages to consolidate his position he will have a pleasant advantage due to his more active pieces and rather "sensitive" e4-pawn. (Kramnik,Vladimir). 12.♘c3 e3 see Sergio Roberto Alve Farias - Silva Filho,Alcindo Luz Bastos, corr 2017

12.♘c3 ♘a6 13.e3

13.♖ac1!? h5 14.h3 ♗f5 (14...♗d7?! 15.♘c2 ♖ad8 16.♘e3± Meier,Georg 2621 - Moranda,Wojciech

2605, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020) 15.♘xf5 gxf5 16.e3∞

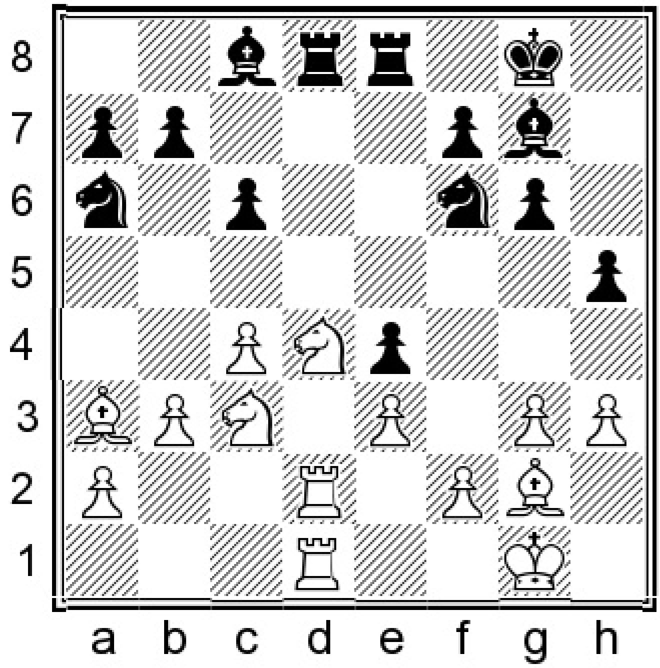
13...♗g4

13...h5!? 14.h3 ♘c7 15.♖d2 ♘e6 16.♘xe6 ♗xe6 17.♖ad1 ♗f5∞ Rakhmanov,Alexander 2629 - Perez Candelario,Manuel 2611, Espana 2018

14.♖d2 ♖ad8 15.h3 ♗c8

15...c5? doesn't work because of 16.hxg4 cxd4 17.♖ad1! ♘xg4 (17...d3 18.g5+-) 18.♘xe4+- and the d4-pawn is pinned.

16.♖ad1± h5



17.♗e7! "A nice tactical trick. Once I saw it I could not resist playing it even if simply pushing the b-pawn would give White considerable pressure." (Kramnik,Vladimir)

17...♖xd4

17...♖xe7? is just losing because of 18.♘xc6 ♖xd2 19.♘xe7+ ♔f8 20.♘xc8 ♖xd1+ 21.♘xd1+- and White will be two pawns up soon.

17...♖d7? 18.♗xf6 ♗xf6 19.♘xe4+-

18.♖xd4 ♖xe7 19.♖d8+ ♘e8

19...♖e8? 20.♖xe8+ ♘xe8 21.♖d8 ♔f8 22.♘xe4±

20.♘xe4 ♗e6 21.♖a8 ♗e5 22.♖dd8 ♔f8 23.♘g5!

23.♖xa7 ♗f5! (23...♗c7? 24.♖da8! ♗b6 25.♖xa6 bxa6 26.♘f6! ♗d7 27.b4! c5 28.♘d5! ♗c6 29.♖xa6 ♗xd5 30.♗xd5+- Kramnik,Vladimir 2808 - Vocaturo,Daniele 2583, Baku (ol) 2016 - 130/189, E 60)

24.♘g5 ♗c7! 25.♖da8 ♗b6 26.♖xa6! bxa6 27.♖xa6 ♗d8 28.♗xc6⩱

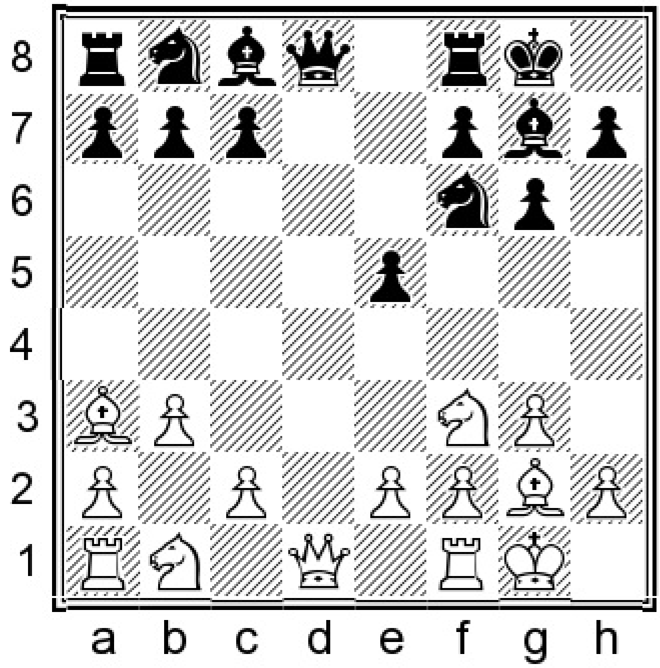
23...♗c7

23...♗d7 24.♖xa7±

24.♘xe6+ ♖xe6 25.♖d7±

8.♗a3 ♕d1/11...♘g4

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.g3 ♗g7 4.♗g2 O-O 5.O-O d6 6.b3 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.♗a3


8
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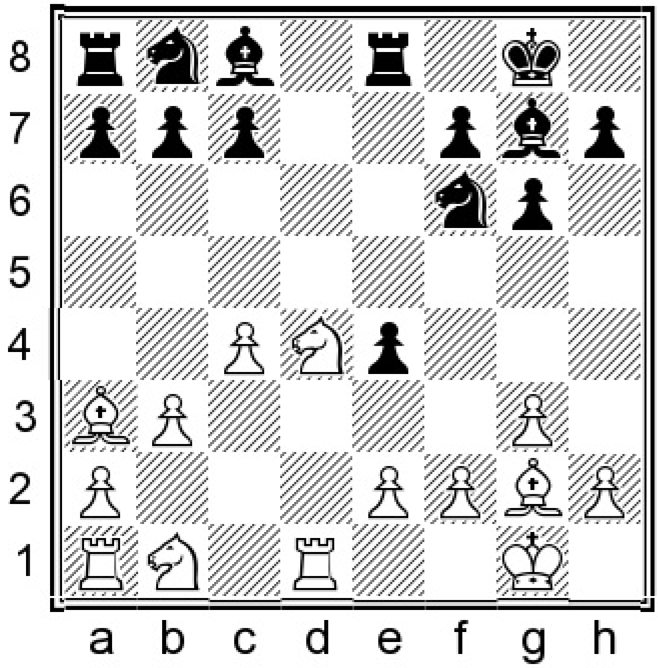
8...♕xd1 9.♖xd1 ♖e8 10.c4 e4 11.♘d4



11...♘g4

At first sight it is a surprising move, because Black doesn't continue the development, but instead he opens the diagonal of the g7-bishop and prepares for ...e3.

12.♘c3

12.h3?! ♘c6! A smart reply, which takes advantage of the power of the g7-bishop on the long diagonal. 13.♘xc6 (13.♘b5?! ♗xa1 14.♘xc7 (Ashiku,Franc 2394 - Georgiadis,Nico 2516, Hersonissos 2017) 14...♘f6! 15.♘xa8 ♗e5!∓) 13...bxc6 14.♗xe4 ♗d7 15.♖xd7 ♖xe4 16.hxg4 ♗xa1 17.e3 ♖c8∓ and Black is slightly better being an exchange up.

12...e3! The point of Black's previous move, which messed up White's position.

13.♘d5! White ignores Black's threats and concentrates on his own attack.

13...♘a6! A very deep and accurate reply which is more precise than 13...ef2.

13...exf2+ 14.♔f1 ♘a6 Compared to the text move, after (14...♘xh2+?! 15.♔xf2 ♘g4+ 16.♔g1 ♘a6 17.♘e7+±) 15.h3 White immediately forces to exchange of the knights. 15...♘e3+ 16.♘xe3 ♖xe3 17.♔xf2± and White has a more comfortable endgame, as his g2-bishop is much better then the c8 counterpart.

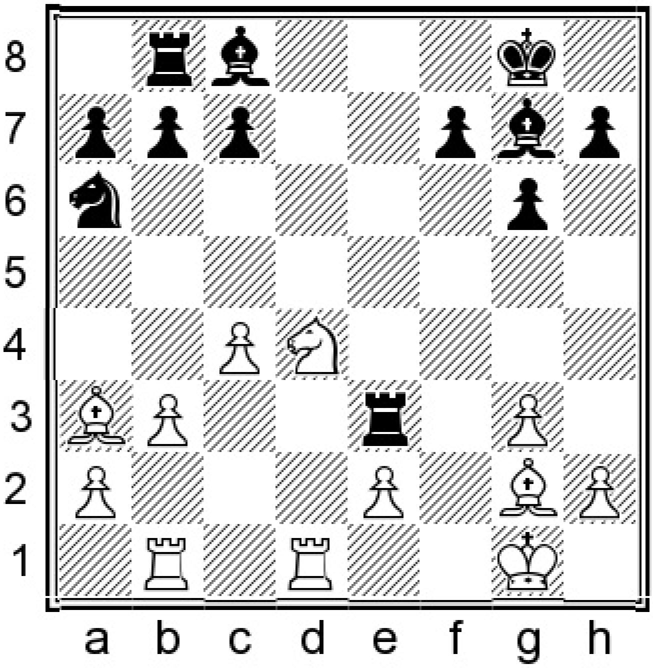
14.♘xe3

14.♘e7+?! ♔h8 15.f4 (15.♘xc8? exf2+ 16.♔f1 ♖axc8 17.♗xb7 ♖cd8-+) 15...♘f2 16.♘xc8 ♖axc8 17.♗xb7 ♘xd1 18.♖xd1 ♖cd8 19.♗d5∞ Pichot,Alan 2584 - Raghunandan,Kaumandur Srihari 2352, Dubai 2019

14.fxe3 ♘xe3 15.♘xe3 ♖xe3 is transposing to the text move.

14...♘xe3 15.fxe3 ♖xe3 16.♔f2

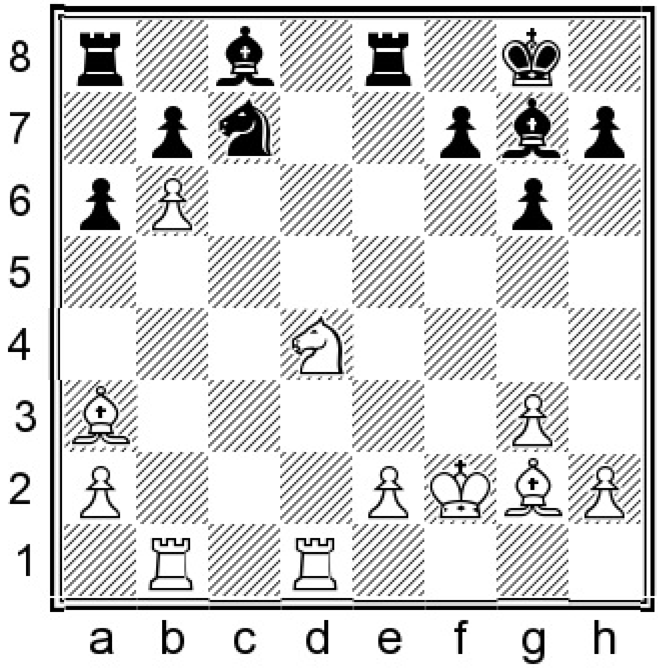
16.♖ab1 - escape from the long diagonal. 16...♖e8! Another important move. Black has to protect his 8th rank and it was not possible to develop the c8-bishop because in that case the b7-pawn would be lost. (16...♖b8?



A logical move. Black protects his b7-pawn in order to free the c8-bishop, but he missed White's strong reply. 17.♘c6!! And again the same beautiful motif! 17...bxc6 18.♖d8++- and White wins.) 17.b4= is transposing to the text move.

16...♖e8 17.b4 ♘b8

17...c6 18.b5 cxb5 19.cxb5 ♘c7 20.♖ab1 (20.♗c5!?) 20...a6 21.♗c5 (21.b6?



21...♗xd4+! 22.♖xd4 ♘b5 23.♖d3 ♗f5 24.e4 ♖xe4!-+ (24...♘xa3 25.♖xa3 ♗xe4 26.♗xe4 ♖xe4 27.♖c3 ♖ae8∓ Lombaers,Peter 2379 - Perez Candelario,Manuel 2612, Portugal 2020))

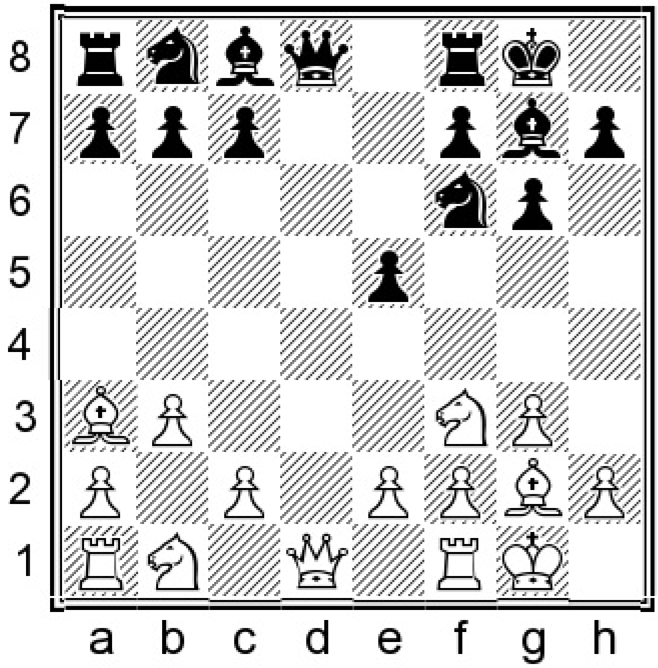
18.♘b5 ♘a6 19.♖ab1 ♗g4 20.♗f3

20.♗xb7? ♖xe2+ 21.♔g1 ♖ae8 22.♗xa6 ♖xa2 23.♖e1 ♖d8 24.♗b7 a6! 25.♗xa6 c6-+

20...♗xf3 21.exf3 ♖ad8=

8.♗a3 e4

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.g3 ♗g7 4.♗g2 O-O 5.O-O d6 6.b3 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.♗a3



8...e4!?

The most modern and ambitious continuation. Black ignores the hanging rook, but instead he simply sacrifices it.

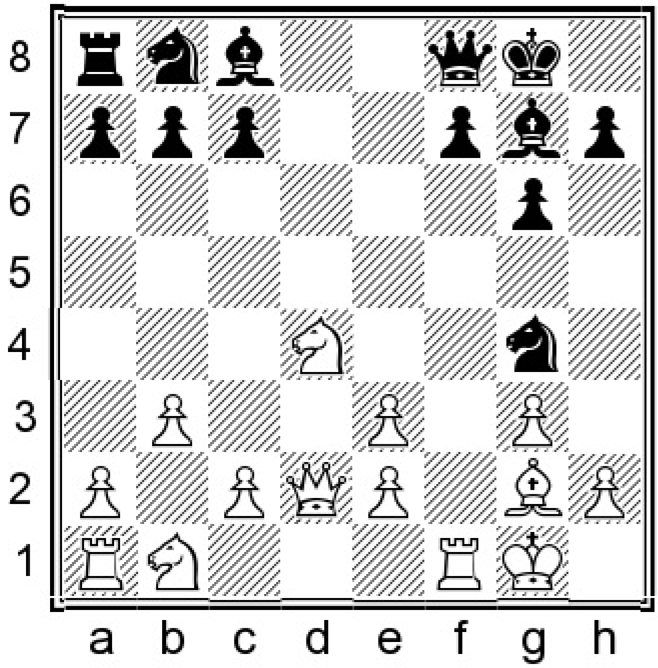
9.♗xf8 White accepts the exchange.

9...♕xf8 10.♘d4 e3! Black immediately has to create weaknesses in White's position, otherwise he would be a clear exchange down.

11.f4 White avoids destruction of his pawn structure, but instead this move he accepts that the black e3-pawn will stay alive and may distress for him later.

11.♘c3? ♘g4 An tricky continuation, which leads White to difficulties right away. 12.fxe3 (12.♕d3 exf2+ 13.♔h1 Paragua,(Mark 2513 - Kovalev, Vladislav 2648, chess.com (ol-rapid) 2020) 13...♘d7!-+) 12...♘xe3 13.♕d3 ♘xf1 14.♖xf1 c6 (14...c5 15.♘db5 ♘c6∞ Victor Mikhalevski 2565 - Maksim Chigaev 2588, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020) 15.♘e4 ♕e7 16.♘f3 (Alexandr Truskavetsky 2399 - Daniil Yuffa 2565, Russia 2020) 16...♘a6! 17.♖d1 ♗f5∓ followed by ...Nc5, so Black is clearly better.

11.fxe3?! ♘g4 12.♕d2



(Fedorovsky,Michael 2426 - Libiszewski,Fabien 2526, Deutschland 2020) 12...c5! could be the improvement over the game, which is the most natural move, as Black utilises the long diagonal of the g7-bishop. (12...♗h6? seems to be a dangerous move for White, but 13.♖f4! ♗xf4 14.exf4+- and suddenly White's pawn structure becomes pretty solid, leaving him with a healthy pawn up.) 13.♗d5 ♘f6∓;

11.f3 ♗d7 Threatening with ...c5 to trap the knight. This is a pretty interesting situation, when the knight is trapped in the centre. (11...c5!? 12.♘b5 ♘c6=∞) 12.a4 ♘c6 13.♘xc6 ♗xc6 14.c3 h5 15.♕c1 ♕e7↑ and thanks to the e3-pawn Black has obviously a wonderful play for the exchange, Zatonskih,Anna 2422 - Chigaev,Maksim 2644, Douglas 2019

11...♘c6 Black continues development and he doesn't take care of the pawn sacrifice despite being the exchange down. He focuses on the initiative instead.

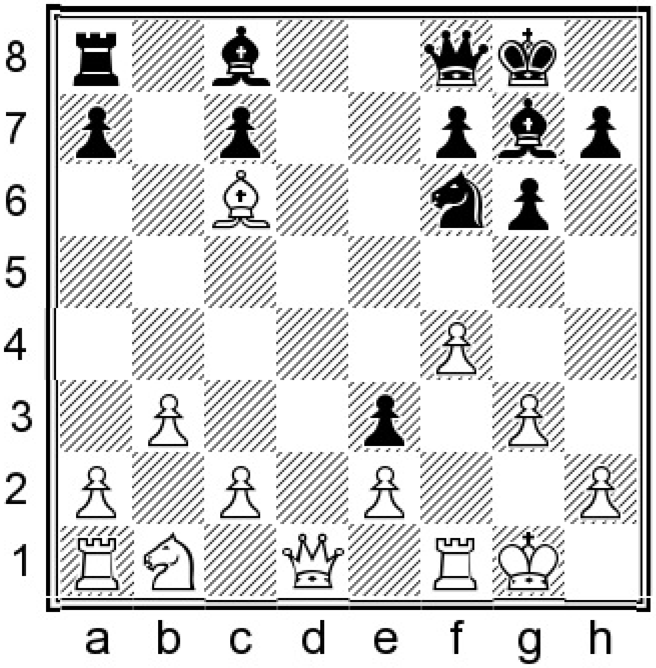
11...♘a6 12.c3 ♘c5 13.♕c1 ♗d7 14.b4 ♘ce4 15.♗xe4 ♘xe4 16.♕xe3± Katopodis,Dimitrios 2353 - Alexakis,Dimitris 2459, Greece 2019

12.♘xc6

12.c3 (Dreev,Alexey 2655 - Chigaev,Maksim 2588, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020) 12...♘xd4 13.cxd4 ♘g4 14.♘c3 c5↑

12...bxc6 13.♘c3

13.♗xc6



13...♗h3! 14.♗g2 (14.♗xa8 ♕xa8 15.♖f3 ♘e4 16.c3 a5↑) 14...♖d8 15.♕c1 ♗xg2 16.♔xg2 ♕c5↑

13...♗f5 14.♕e1

14.♕c1 h5 (14...♖e8!?) 15.♘d1 (15.♕xe3? ♘g4 16.♕f3 ♕c5+-+ Mikhalevski,Victor 2565 - Chigaev,Maksim 2588, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2020) 15...♖e8=∞

14...h5 Black has a very strong pressure for the exchange.

15.h3 ♖e8

15...♘d5 16.♘xd5 cxd5 17.♗xd5 c6 18.♗g2 ♕c5 (18...♗xa1 19.♕xa1 ♕c5=) 19.c3 ♖d8 20.b4 (20.g4!?) 20...♕b6=∞ He,Anthony 2337 - Chen,Ryo 2183, chess.com (Internet) 2021

16.♔h2 h4 17.g4 ♗xg4 18.♖d1!?

18.hxg4 ♘xg4+ 19.♔g1 ♘f2 20.♖d1 ♕b4 (20...h3 21.♗f3 ♕b4⇄) 21.♘a4 ♕xf4 22.♖xf2 exf2+ 23.♕xf2 ♕g5 24.♖d3 ♖e5 25.b4 ♖f5 26.♖f3 (Meier,Georg 2628 - Chigaev,Maksim 2639, chess.com (Internet-blitz) 2021) 26...h3!-+

18...♗f5 19.♗xc6 ♖e6 20.♗f3 c6 21.♕xh4 ♘e8=∞

Conclusion

The 6.b3 is a quite interesting sideline, aiming to avoid the mass of theory after 6.c4. In this article I examined 6... e5. On the other hand, 6...c5 is another main continuation, but things are also complicated there. Normally, White would like to get some advantage, similar to the Catalan: the advantage of his g2-bishop over the c8-bishop. Nowadays the critical variation is 8...e4!?, where Black sacrifices an exchange and obtains compensation in return for it. That is the most ambitious reply by Black, where he doesn't fight only for equality, but instead he changes the balance of the position. Theoretical knowledge is important, not least because of the previously mentioned sharp line. Nevertheless, this line is playable with both colours.

THE ART OF INTUITIVE SACRIFICES

By GM Michael Prusikin

Michael Prusikin

- **Country:** Germany
- **Born:** 1978
- **Rating:** 2540
- **Peak rating:** 2571
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 2004

One of the most fascinating and at the same time most difficult topics in chess is the intuitive sacrifice. An intuitive sacrifice is an investment of material which consequences you cannot clearly calculate till the end.

Obviously, such a sacrifice is always associated with a high level of risk, because you are forced to trust your intuition, which can occasionally play a prank on you.

In this article we are going to examine some examples of intuitive sacrifices in the attack on the enemy king. Positional sacrifices, which are also mostly intuitive, are not of interest here.

All the great masters of the king attack in the history of chess were perfectly capable of intuitive sacrifices. The most famous example is "the magician from Riga" Mihail Tal. However, his games are very well known in the chess community, so for that reason I selected some recently played games to demonstrate our topic.

Let us start with two games, both played in 2021. In the first one, the young Armenian player was successful with her brave play. In the second one, in turn, Vincent Keymer was unfortunately punished for his entertaining play.

B51
Sargsyan, Anna M (2402) - Hayrapetyan, Hovik (2488)
Armenia (ch), 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+ ♘d7 The most challenging move.

More solid is 3...♗d7

4.O-O a6 5.♗d3 This retreat looks pretty strange, but it's idea is not bad at all: White plans to play c3, putting the bishop on c2.

5...♘gf6 6.c3 b5 7.♗c2 ♗b7 8.d3!? Preventing black from playing c4.

8.♖e1!? c4 9.a4 e6 10.d4 cxd3 11.♕xd3 ♘c5 12.♕e2 bxa4 13.♗e3 ♘fd7 14.♗d4 e5 15.♗xc5 ♘xc5 16.c4 ♗e7 17.♗xa4+ ♘xa4 18.♖xa4 O-O 19.♘c3= Song,Raymond 2478 - Can,Emre 2600, Gibraltar

2020

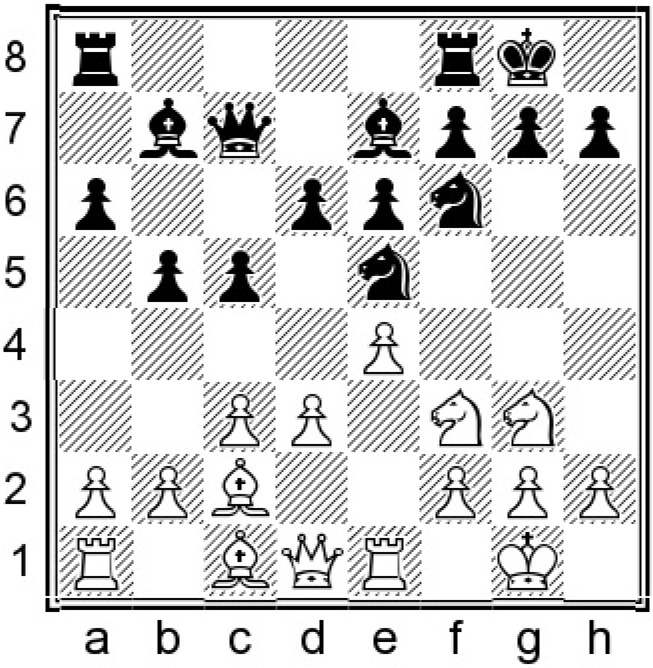
8...♕c7

8...c4?! 9.dxc4 bxc4 10.♕e2±

9.♖e1 e6

The fianchetto looks more logical to me: 9...g6 10.♘bd2 ♗g7 11.♘f1 O-O 12.♘g3 e5 13.♗g5 h6 14.♗d2 d5∓ Mohammad Minhaz Uddin 2430 - Sethuraman SP 2647, Tashkent 2016

10.♘bd2 ♗e7 11.♘f1 O-O 12.♘g3 ♘e5



13.♘g5!?N An interesting novelty. Anna wants to push f4 as soon as possible and she has no inhibitions to put this knight to h3 in order to reach this goal.

13.h3 ♘fd7 14.♘h2 d5∓ Velimirovic,Dragoljub 2525 - Sax,Gyula 2565, Beograd 1977

13...♘c6 This seems to be slightly inconsistent.

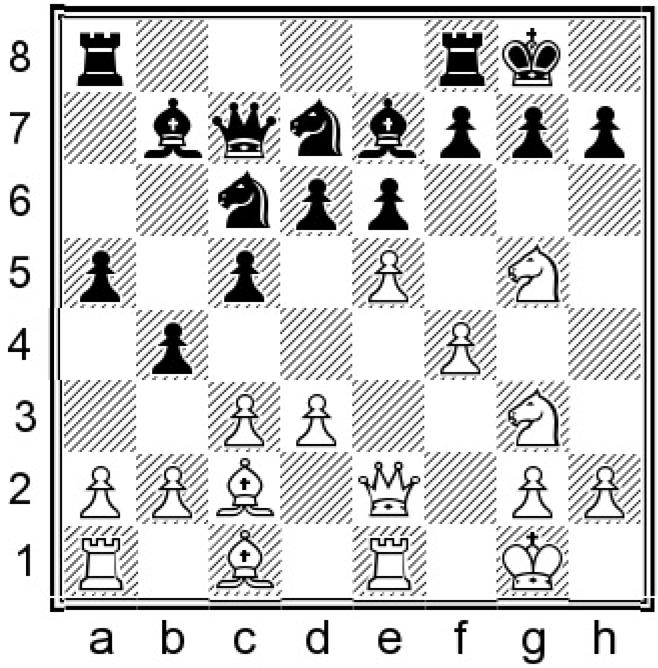
I prefer 13...h6 14.♘h3 ♘g6 15.f4 ♘h4∞

14.f4 b4 15.♕e2 This is a bit too slow.

15.f5! h6 16.♘h3±

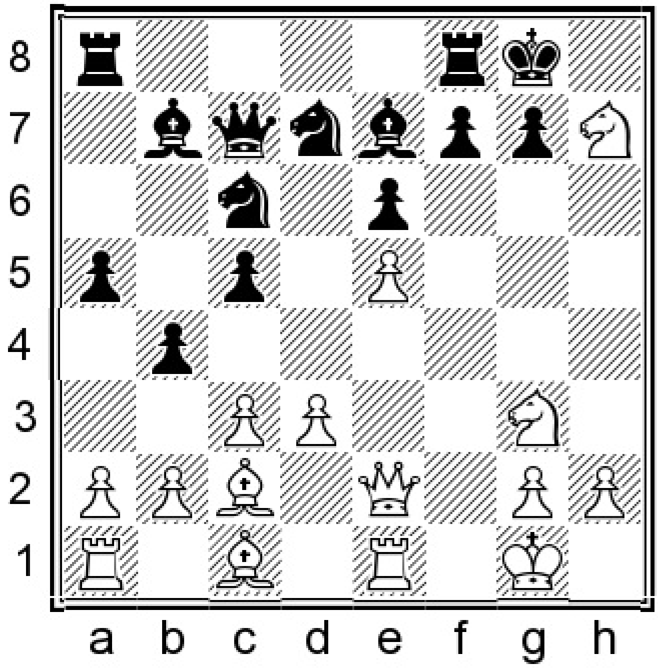
15...a5 16.e5 We have reached the critical position of the game. Black has a wide choice of four reasonable continuations. Which one should he take?

16...♘d7?



The most natural but clearly the worst decision - bad luck for Hayrapetyan! It was very difficult, or almost impossible, for Black to calculate all the variations till the end, so he was forced to make the decision intuitively.

16...dxe5?! looked very dangerous, but was still much better, than the game: 17.fxe5 ♘d7 18.♘xh7!



18...♖fc8!! Only this cool-blooded move saves the day. (18...♔xh7? 19.d4+ ♔g8 20.♘h5 g6 21.♕g4+-) 19.♘f6+ (19.♘g5 ♘cxe5 20.♕h5 ♗xg5 21.♗xg5=) 19...♘xf6 20.exf6 ♗xf6 21.♖f1! ♘e7 (21...bxc3 22.♖xf6 gxf6 23.bxc3 ♕e5 24.♕g4+ ♔f8 25.♗d2→) 22.♗f4 ♕d8 23.♘e4 ♘f5=;

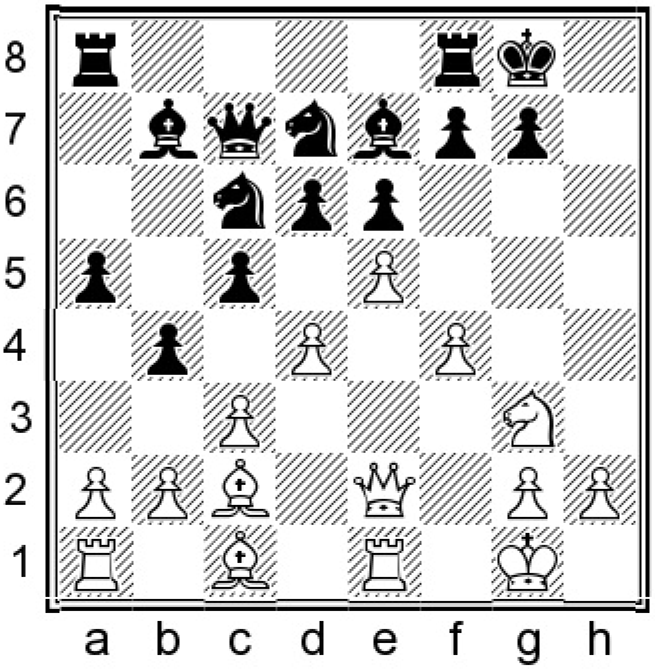
16...♘d5!? 17.♕h5∞ (17.♘xh7? bxc3! 18.bxc3 ♔xh7 19.♕h5+ (19.d4+ g6 20.f5 exf5 21.♘xf5 dxe5-+) 19...♔g8 20.d4 f5 21.exf6 ♘xf6 22.♕g6 ♘d8∓; 17.d4∞)

16...♘e8!?=

17.♘xh7!! A nice and temping intuitive sacrifice! For a human player it is completely impossible to come to a clear conclusion. The end of the variations is somewhere behind the horizon, but the knight sacrifice looks very promising, because all the white pieces, except the a1-rook, "join the party", i.e. they take part in the attack.

17...♔xh7 18.d4+ ♔g8

18...g6 19.f5! exf5 20.♘xf5! ♖h8 (20...♖ae8 21.♕e3+-) 21.♘xe7 ♘xe7 22.exd6+-



19.♘h5!! The most difficult move of White's attack.

19.♕h5? f5∓

19...g6? This move loses immediately.

19...♖fe8? 20.♘xg7! ♔xg7 21.♕g4+ ♔f8 22.f5+-

Much more stubborn was 19...f5! 20.exf6 ♘xf6 (20...♗xf6 21.♕d3!+- (21.♕xe6+? ♖f7 22.♗g6 ♘f8 23.♘xf6+ gxf6 24.♗xf7+ ♕xf7 25.♕xf7+ ♔xf7∞)) 21.♕xe6+ ♖f7 22.♗g6 ♗f8 For example: 23.d5! ♘xh5 24.♗xh5 ♘d8 25.♕h3 ♖f6 26.f5 ♘f7 27.g4! g6 28.♗xg6 ♖xg6 29.fxg6 ♘e5 30.♗g5 ♘xg6 31.♖e6 ♕h7 32.♕xh7+ ♔xh7 33.c4±

20.♕g4! Now it is all over.

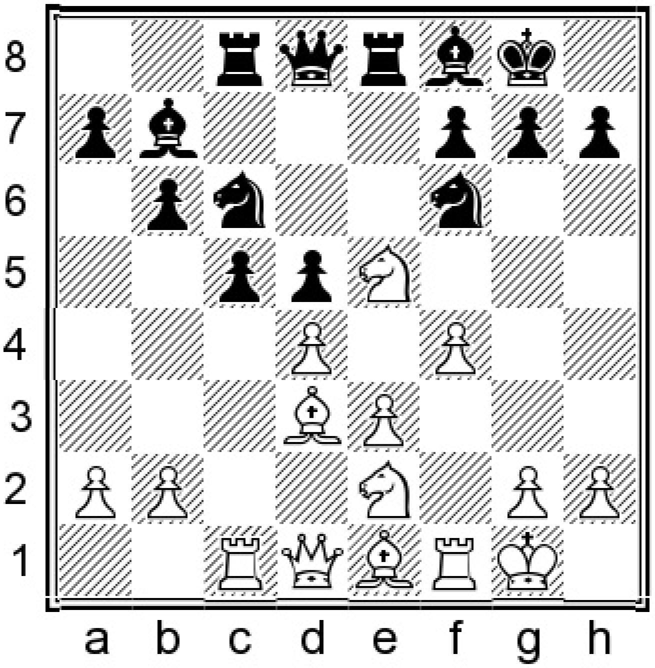
20...♔h7 21.f5! exf5 22.♕f4! 1-0

E52
Keymer, Vincent (2639) - Bjerre, Jonas Buhl (2569)
Terme Catez, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 ♗b4 5.e3 O-O 6.♗d2 b6 7.cxd5 exd5 8.♖c1 ♖e8 9.♗d3 ♗b7 10.O-O ♗f8 11.♘e5 c5 12.f4 ♘c6 13.♘e2

13.♘xd5!? leads to a very interesting position: 13...♕xd5! (13...♘xd5? 14.♗xh7+ ♔xh7 15.♕h5+ ♔g8 16.♕xf7+ ♔h7 17.♖f3+-) 14.♗c4 ♕xg2+!? (14...♕d8 15.♘xf7 ♕c7 16.♘e5+ ♔h8 17.♘f7+=) 15.♔xg2 ♘xe5+ 16.♔g1 ♘xc4 17.♖xc4 ♖ad8=∞ With an excellent compensation for the sacrificed queen, Budisavljevic,Luka 2454 - Predke,Alexandr 2684, Srbija 2020

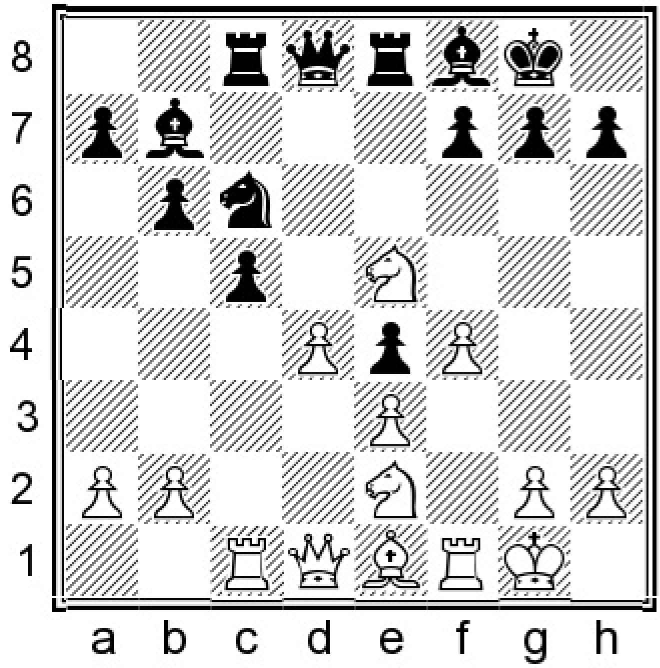
13...♖c8 14.♗e1



14...♘e4!N This novelty is a clear improvement.

Previous game: 14...cxd4 15.exd4 ♘e4 16.♗b5! ♖e6 17.h3 f6 18.♘xc6 ♗xc6 19.♗a6 ♖c7 20.f5 ♖e8 21.♘f4± Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi 2726 - Dominguez Perez,Leinier 2758, chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021

15.♗xe4 dxe4



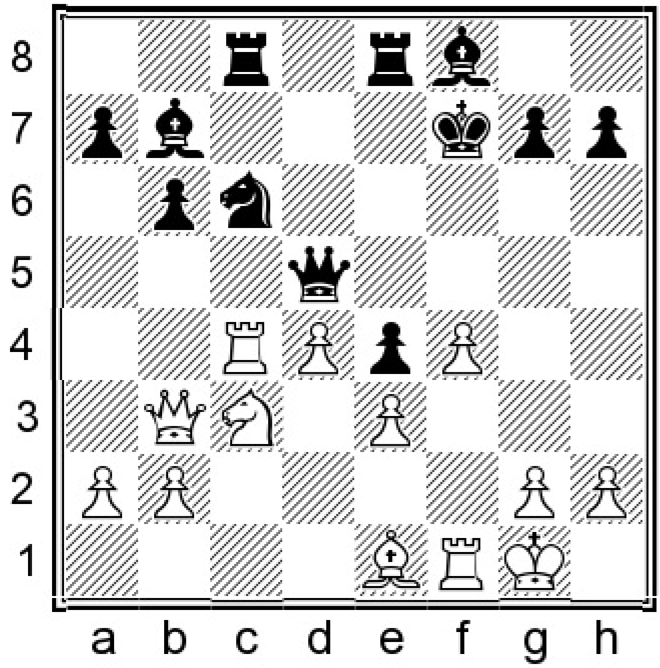
16.♘xf7!? Here we go! Vincent was thinking for a long while about this move, which means that it was not prepared. Is this sacrifice objectively correct? Yes, probably it is, but the risk is very high for both sides.

16...♔xf7 17.♕b3+ c4!

17...♔g6 18.f5+ ♔h6 19.♗g3 ♗d6 20.f6! c4! (20...g6 21.dxc5 ♗xg3 22.♘xg3±) 21.♕d1! gxf6 22.♘f4 ♗xf4 23.♖xf4 ♖g8 24.♖h4+ ♔g7 25.♕h5 ♕e7 26.♖f1! ♔h8 27.♖xf6→

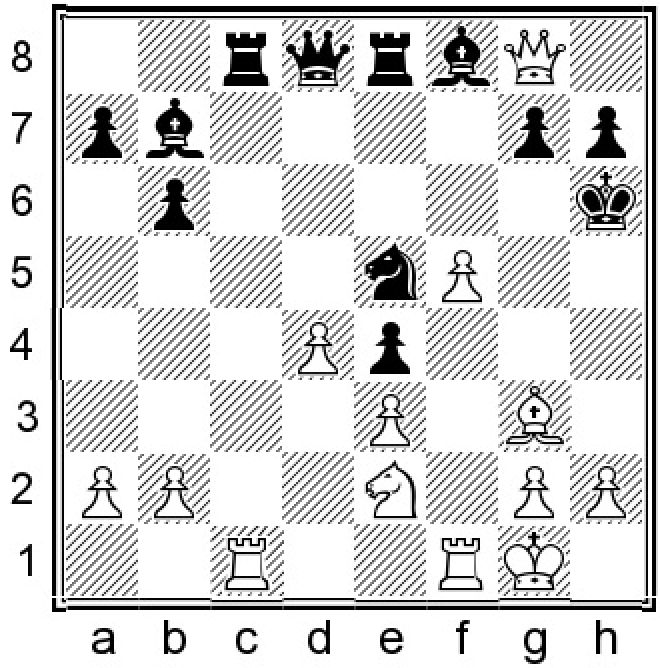
18.♕xc4+

18.♖xc4!? was a serious alternative: 18...♕d5! 19.♘c3



19...♘xd4!! (19...♘a5? 20.♖xc8! ♘xb3 (20...♖xc8 21.♕xd5+ ♗xd5 22.♘xd5+-) 21.♖c7+!+-) 20.♖xd4! (Here 20.♖xc8? does not work well for Black: 20...♖xc8 21.♕xd5+ ♗xd5 22.exd4 (22.♘xd5 ♘e2+ 23.♔f2 (23.♔h1 ♖c1-+) 23...♖c2-+) 22...♗c4 23.♖f2 ♖d8 24.♘xe4 ♖xd4 25.♘c3 ♗c5∓) 20...♕xb3 21.axb3 ♗c5 22.♖d7+ ♖e7 23.♖xe7+ ♗xe7=∞

18...♔g6 19.f5+ ♔h6 20.♗g3 ♘e5! 21.♕g8!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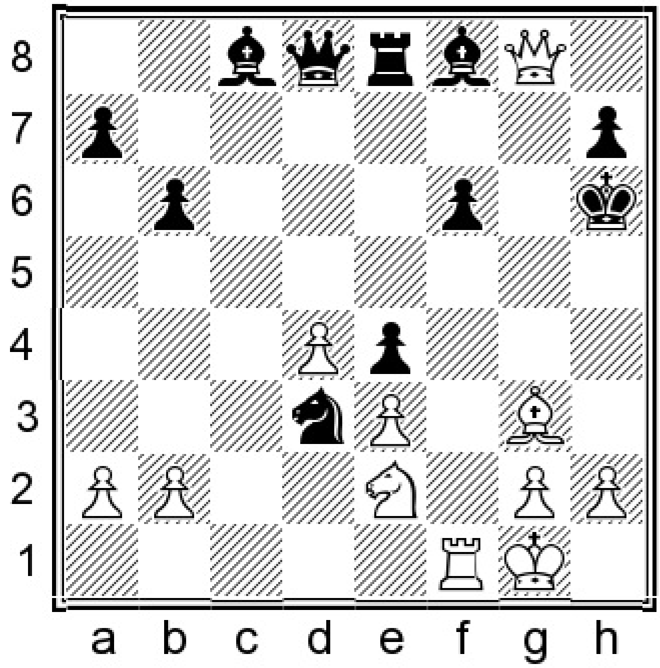
21...♗e7! The only defence!

21...♘d3? 22.♖xc8 ♗xc8 23.f6! gxf6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(23...♗e6 24.f7+-) 24.♖f4!!+- with unavoidable mate soon to come.

22.♖xc8 ♗xc8 23.♗f4+ ♗g5 24.♗xg5+ ♕xg5 25.♕xe8 After a completely forced series of moves Black gets a chance for a counterattack, although, the position is still in balance.

25...♕xe3+ 26.♔h1 ♕xe2 27.♖c1 ♘d3 28.♖c6+ ♔g5 29.♕e7+? The only mistake in the whole game - from both rivals! An impressive achievement of young grandmasters!

29.h3! was sufficient for a draw: 29...♗xf5 30.♕e7+ ♔h5 31.♕xg7 ♕f1+ 32.♔h2 ♕f4+=

29...♔f4-+ 30.h3

30.♕h4+ ♔e3 31.♕g3+ ♔d2-+

30...♕e1+ 31.♔h2 ♕g3+ This is the difference to 29.h3! The black king on f4 makes this check possible. **32.♔h1**

32.♔g1 ♕f2+ 33.♔h2 ♘e1-+

32...♘f2+ 33.♔g1 ♘xh3+ 34.♔h1 ♕e1+

34...♕e1+ 35.♔h2 ♕g1+ 36.♔xh3 ♕h1#

0-1

D85
Prusikin, Michael - Goetz, Ralph (2335)
Passau, 1996

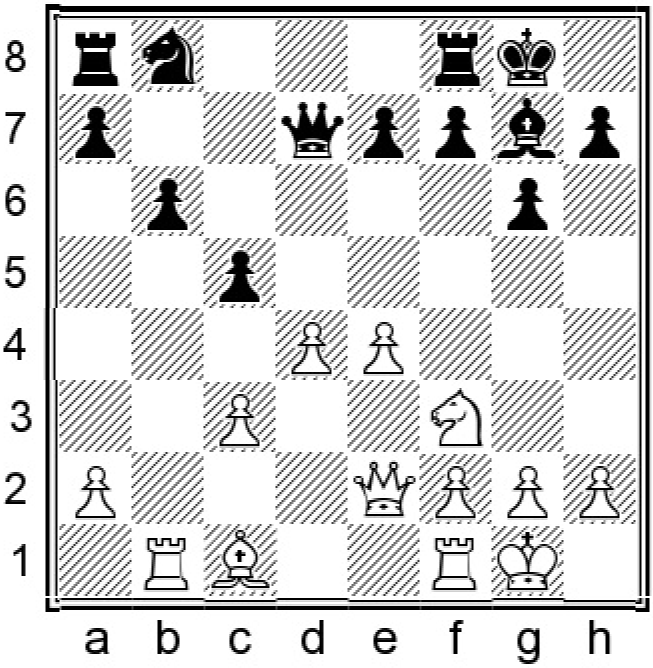
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.e4 ♘xc3 6.bxc3 ♗g7 7.♘f3 c5 8.♖b1 O-O 9.♗e2 b6

9...cxd4 10.cxd4 ♕a5+ is the main line, but the game continuation is also totally okay.

10.O-O ♗b7 11.♕d3

The pawn sacrifice 11.d5!? which we will see later on in the game is here already very promising: 11...♗xc3 12.h4! ♗g7 13.h5 ♘d7 14.hxg6 hxg6 15.♘g5 ♘f6 16.♖b3!± with a strong attack, Meyner,Hannes - Grammatica,Andrea, corr 2013

11...♗a6 12.♕e3 ♗xe2 13.♕xe2 ♕d7



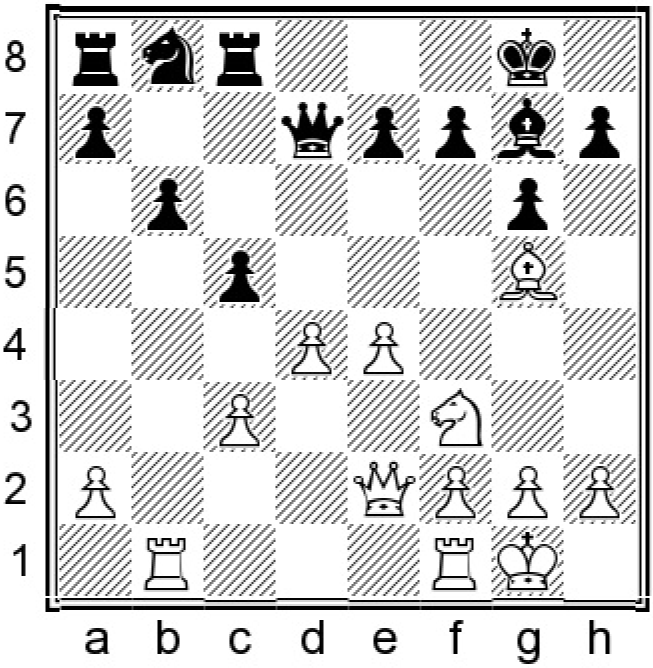
14.♗g5!?N

14.♖d1!? cxd4 15.cxd4 ♖c8 16.d5 ♕a4 17.♗g5±;

14.d5!? ♗xc3 15.♗h6 ♗g7 16.♗xg7 ♔xg7 17.♖bd1 ♕a4 18.♖fe1 ♘d7 19.e5± Maguire,Gary - Volkov,Aleksandr A, corr 2018

14...♖c8

14...h6 15.♗f4± Karjakin,Sergey 2762 - Nepomniachtchi, Ian 2702, Russia (ch) 2013



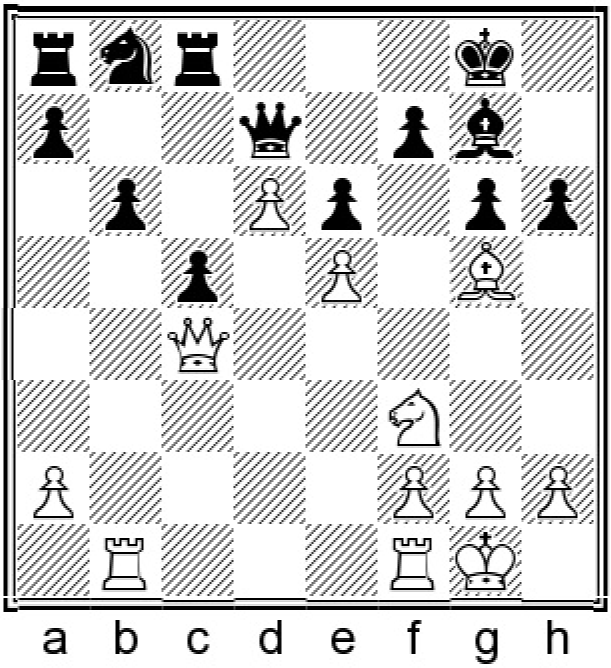
15.d5!? Not the best move according to *Stockfish*, but the most logical from the human point of view: White closes the c-file, which makes the last move of his opponent slightly absurd.

15.♖bd1!?

15...♗xc3 16.♕c4! ♗g7 17.e5 e6

17...♕f5 18.♖fe1 e6 19.♖bd1 exd5 20.♖xd5 ♕e6 21.♕e4±

18.d6 h6 The critical moment of the fight. The retreat of the bishop seems to be very tame, but what about...

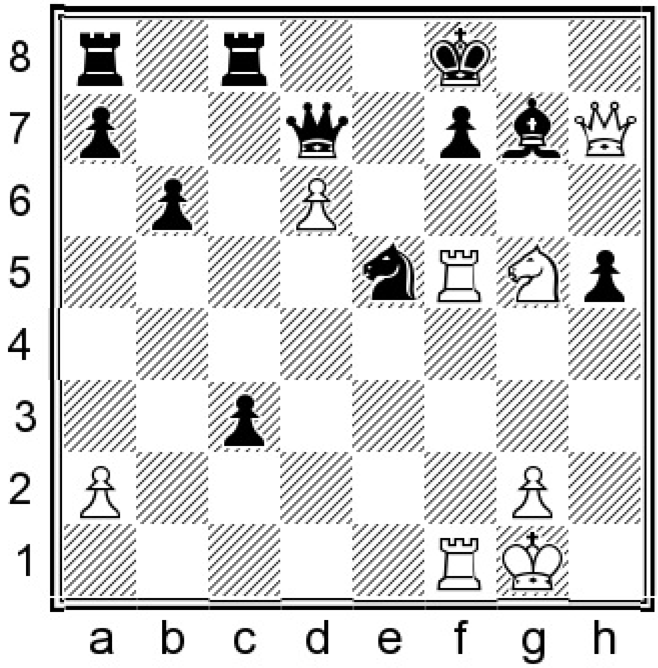


19.♕h4!? Although this move does not win, Black's practical task from now on is very difficult.

19.♗d2 ♕e8∞

19...hxg5 20.♘xg5 ♗xe5? The first mistake is already the decisive one, but a long sequence of only moves was required to hold this position.

I am not sure if it is possible to find them over the board, but it is a great fun to analyse the arising complications being "armed" with an engine: 20...c4□ 21.f4 c3! (21...♘c6? 22.♕h7+ ♔f8 23.♘e4! ♕d8 24.g4! c3 25.f5 gxf5 26.gxf5 exf5 27.♔h1!! ♘xe5 28.♖xf5 ♕d7 29.♖g1!+-) 22.♕h7+ ♔f8 23.h4 ♘c6! 24.h5 (24.♘e4 ♕d8!=) 24...gxh5 25.f5 (25.♘e4!? ♕d8! 26.f5 exf5 27.♖xf5 c2 28.♖bf1 ♘xe5 29.♖g5 ♕xg5 30.♘xg5 c1=Q 31.♘e6+ ♔e8 32.♘xg7+ ♔d7 33.♕f5+ ♔xd6 34.♘e8+ ♔d5 35.♘f6+ ♔d6 36.♘e8+=) 25...exf5 26.♖xf5 (26.♘xf7 ♘d4! 27.♘g5 c2=) 26...♘xe5 27.♖bf1



27...♖c5!! 28.♕xh5 ♔g8! 29.♕h7+ ♔f8 30.♕h5=

21.♕h7+ ♔f8 22.♖b3+- Now it is an easy win for White.

22...♗xd6 23.♖f3 f5 24.♕xg6 ♗e5 25.♖d3 ♕e8 26.♕h6+ ♔g8 27.♕h7+ ♔f8 28.♖e1 ♕e7 29.♕h6+ ♗g7 30.♘xe6+ ♔g8 31.♖g3 1-0

D37
Lalith, Babu MR (2569) - Deepan Chakkravarthy, J. (2462)
India (ch), 2013

1.♘f3 d5 2.d4 ♘f6 3.c4 e6 4.♘c3 ♗e7 5.♗f4 O-O 6.a3 b6 7.♕c2!? An interesting plan. White wants to develop his queenside pieces first.

7.e3 c5 8.dxc5 bxc5 9.♗e2 ♗b7 10.O-O ♘bd7= Le,Quang Liem 2712 - Ponomariov, Ruslan 2743, Khanty-Mansiysk (rapid) 2013

7...c5

7...♗b7 is probably the critical line, for example: 8.♖d1 dxc4 9.e4 b5! 10.h4! h6 11.♗e2 b4 12.axb4 ♗xb4 13.e5 ♗xf3 (13...♘d5? 14.♗xh6! gxh6 15.♘g5! hxg5 16.hxg5 f5 17.gxf6 ♖xf6 18.♕h7+ ♔f8 19.♕h8+ 1 : 0 Edouard,Romain 2608 - Van der Wiel,John 2459, Antwerpen 2011 - 113/(157)) 14.♗xf3 ♘d5∞

8.♖d1 ♘c6

8...♗b7 is more precise: 9.cxd5 ♘xd5 10.dxc5 ♕c8 11.♘xd5 ♗xd5 12.e4 ♗b7 13.♗d3 ♕xc5= Giri,Anish 2764 - Karjakin,Sergey 2752, chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2020

9.e3

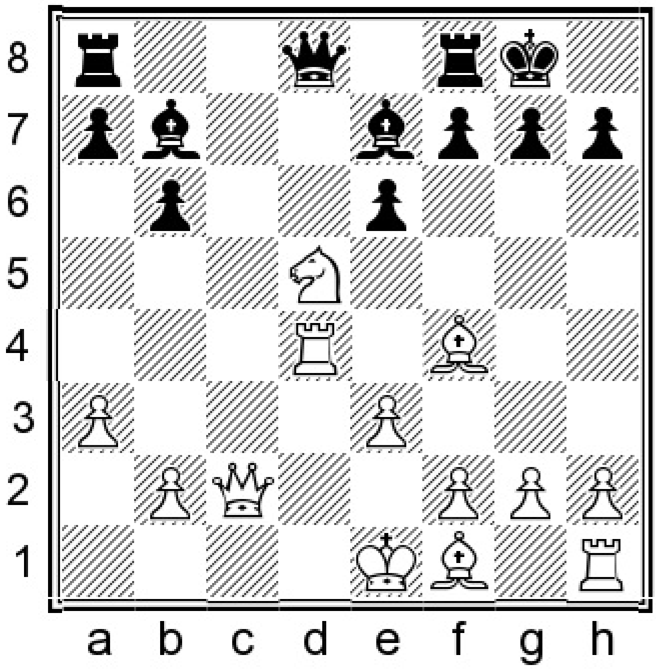
9.cxd5! exd5 10.e3±

9...cxd4 10.♘xd4N

10.cxd5 ♘xd5 11.♘xd5 ♕xd5 12.♗d3=

10...♘xd4 11.♖xd4 ♗b7 12.cxd5 exd5?! Black should have exchanged the knigts to get the f6-square for his bishop - a typical idea for this type of positions.

12...♘xd5! 13.♘xd5

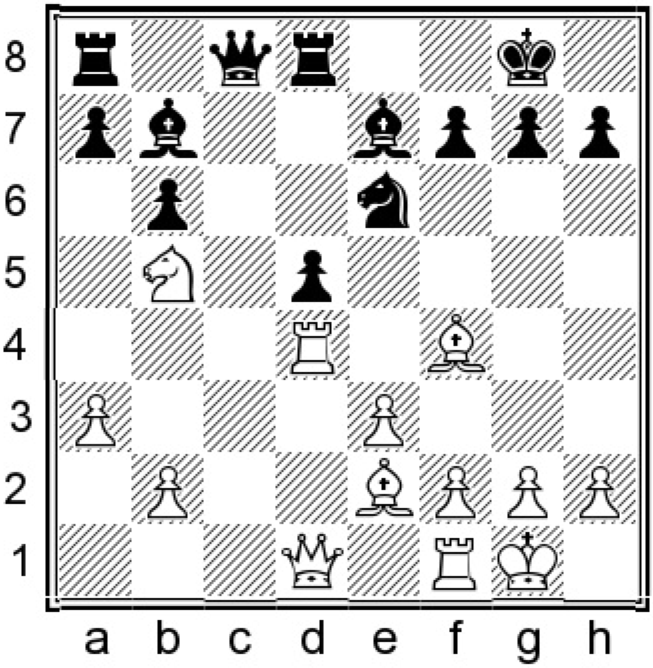


13...exd5!? (13...♗xd5!? 14.♗a6 (14.e4?! ♗c5! 15.♖d1 ♕f6∓) 14...♗f6 15.♖d2 ♕e7 16.O-O ♖ad8=) 14.♗e2 ♗f6 15.♖d2 ♖c8 16.♕d1 d4 17.O-O ♕e7 18.♗g3 (18.exd4? ♗xg2! 19.♔xg2 ♕e4+ 20.♔g3 ♗h4+! 21.♔xh4 ♕xf4+ 22.♔h3 ♖c6∓) 18...dxe3 19.♖d7 ♕e4 20.♗f3 e2 21.♕xe2 ♕xe2 22.♗xe2=

13.♗e2 ♕c8 14.♕b3 ♖d8 15.♘b5?! Aiming to prevent Black from playing d4, but that breakthrough was not playable anyway.

15.O-O ♗c5 16.♖d2 d4 17.♖fd1 ♘d5 18.♘xd5 ♗xd5 19.♗c4 ♕e6 20.♗xd5 ♖xd5 21.exd4 ♗d6 22.♗xd6 ♕xd6 23.g3±

15...♘e4 16.O-O ♘c5 17.♕d1 ♘e6



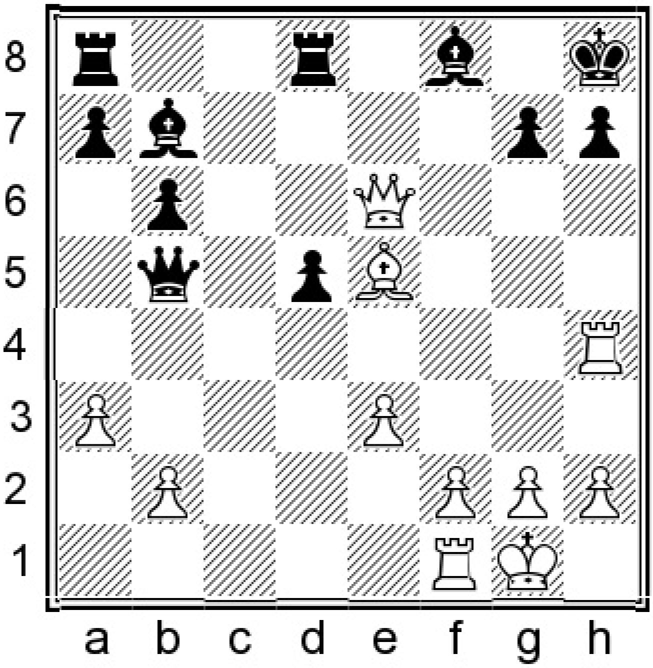
18.♗g4!? This move includes already a piece sacrifice. It is a typical intuitive sacrifice, because it was quite impossible for White to calculate the consequences of his 18th move till the end. The alternative leads to a complete equality:

18.♖d2 ♘xf4 19.exf4 d4! 20.♘xd4 ♗f6⩱

18...♕c6 19.♗xe6 fxe6 20.♗e5!

There was no way back, literally: 20.♘c3? ♗f6 21.♖d2 d4-+

20...♕xb5 21.♕g4 ♗f8 22.♕xe6+ ♔h8 23.♖h4



23...♕d3? Faced with some difficulties, Black collapses immediately - a typical situation.

23...♕c6! was called for: 24.♕h3 d4 (24...♕g6!? 25.f4! d4 26.exd4 ♔g8 27.f5 ♕c6 28.f6 ♖d7=) 25.♖xh7+ ♔g8 26.♖h8+ ♔f7 27.♕f5+ ♔e7 28.♕g5+ ♔f7=

24.e4! ♗a6

24...dxe4? 25.♕g6+-

25.♖e1□

25.♖a1? dxe4 26.♕g6 ♕d1+ 27.♖xd1 ♖xd1#

25...♕d2! 26.♗c3 ♕g5 27.♕h3! d4?! This loses without any resistance.

Much more stubborn was: 27...♕g6 28.f4! dxe4 29.f5 ♗c8 30.fxg6 ♗xh3 31.♖xh3 ♗c5+ 32.♔f1 ♗d4 33.♖xh7+ ♔g8 34.♗xd4 ♖xd4 35.♖h4+- - but the ensuing endgame should be won for White.

28.♖xh7+ ♔g8 29.e5!

29.f4+-

29...♗b7

29...dxc3 30.e6 ♕h6 31.♖xh6 gxh6 32.e7 ♗xe7 33.♕e6++-

30.♖h8+?!

30.g3 winning on the spot. 30...dxc3 31.e6 ♕h6 32.♖xh6 gxh6 33.e7+-

30...♔f7 31.e6+ ♔g6 32.♗d2 ♕f5? Missing the last chance.

32...♕xg2+! 33.♕xg2+ ♗xg2 34.♔xg2 ♗e7 35.♖h3 ♗f6± gave Black good chances to survive.

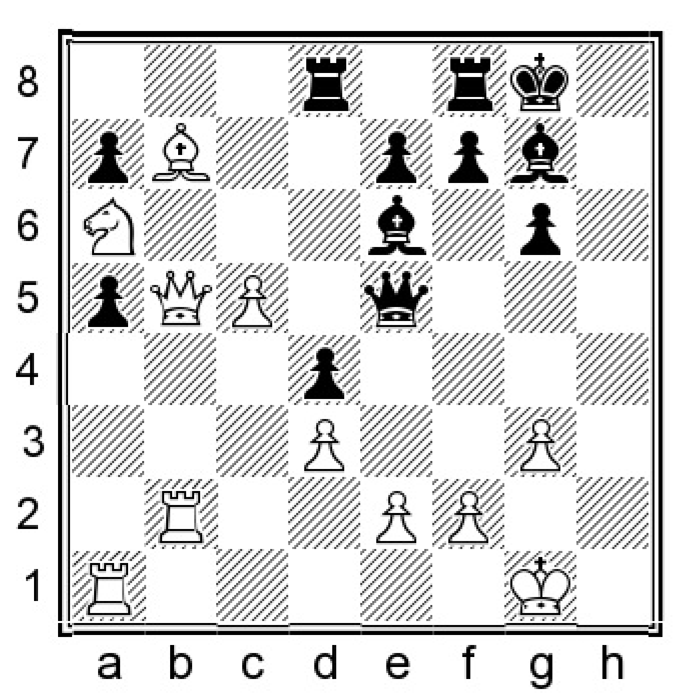
33.♕g3+ Now it is over.

33...♔f6 34.h4 g5 35.♖h7 1-0

We will conclude this article with some exercises:

The positions are quite difficult. In all 3 cases the players failed to "solve" them over the board, but I believe that it should be possible to find the right continuations without the help of the machine. I would recommend to take 15-20 Minutes for searching the best attacking idea in each case.

Prusikin, Michael (2440) - Langheinrich, Ferenc (2325)
Deutschland, 2000



Black to move.

Show/Hide Solution

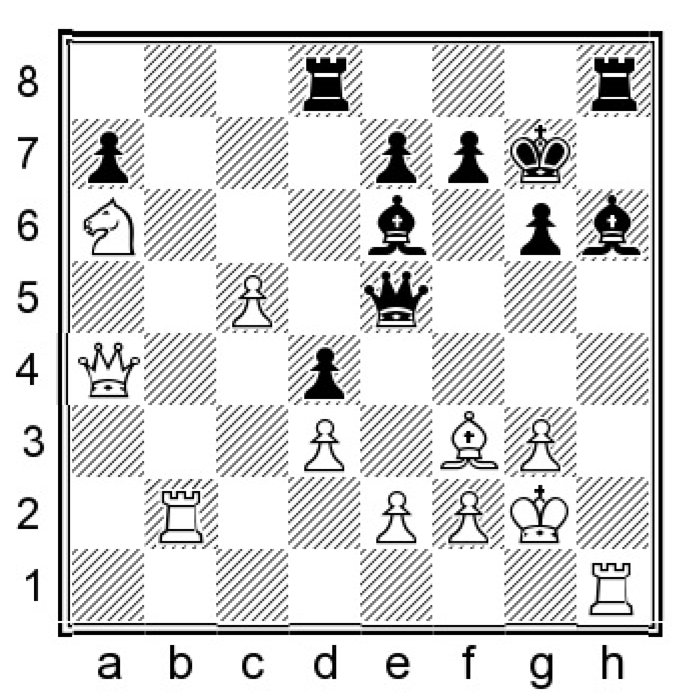
29...♗h6!!

29...f5? 30.♗f3! f4 31.g4+- ♗f6 32.c6 ♖d5 33.♗xd5 ♗xd5 34.♖xa5 e6 35.♘b4 ♖b8 36.♘xd5 ♖xb5 37.♘xf6+ ♕xf6 38.♖axb5 ♕h4 39.c7 ♕xg4+ 40.♔f1 1 : 0 Prusikin,Michael 2440 - Langheinrich,Ferenc 2325

30.♔g2

30.♗f3 ♗e3! 31.♔g2 ♗h3+!! 32.♔xh3 ♗xf2-+

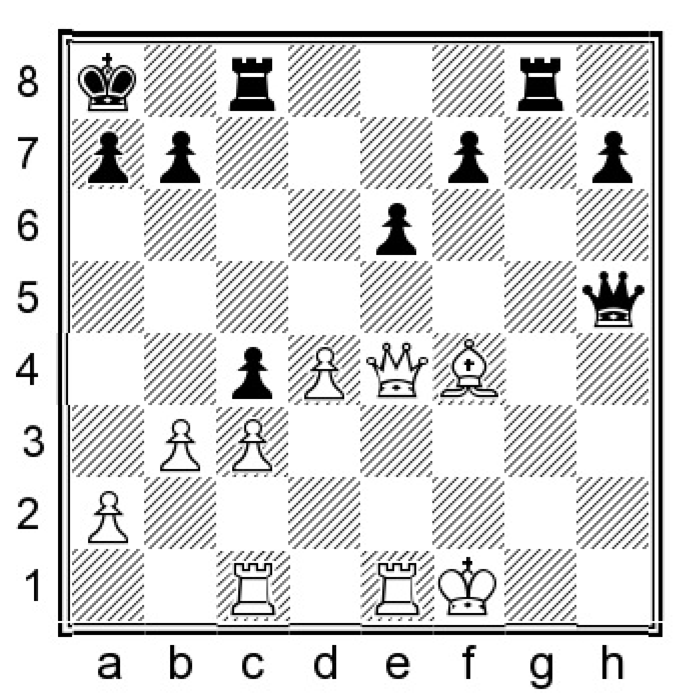
30...♔g7! 31.♗f3 ♖h8 32.♖h1 a4!! 33.♕xa4



33.♖bb1 a3-+

33...♗e3!! 34.♖bb1 ♗h3+!! 35.♖xh3 ♖xh3 36.♔xh3 ♗xf2-+

Hansen, Soren Bech (2250) - Bronstein, David (2460)
Danmark (m), 1991



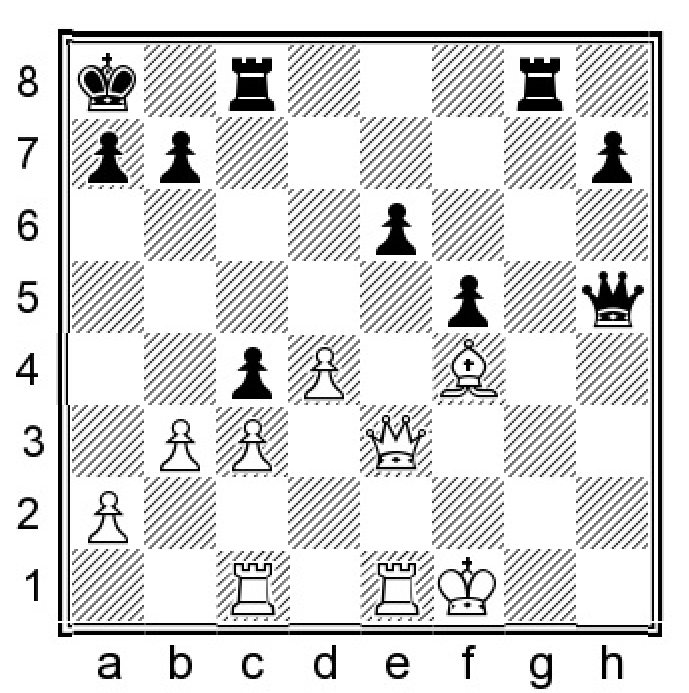
Black to move.

Show/Hide Solution

33...f5!!

33...♕h3+? 34.♔f2+- Hansen, Soren Bech 2250 - Bronstein,David 2460

34.♕e3

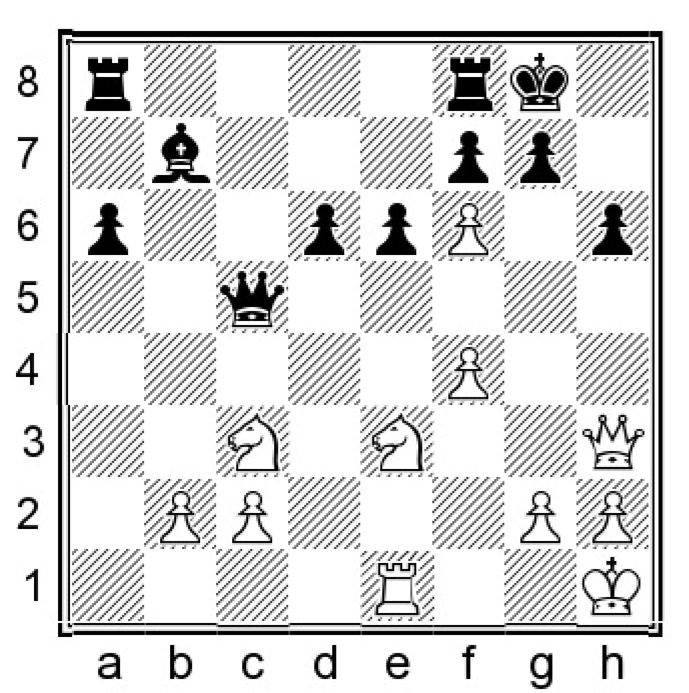


34...e5!! 35.dxe5

35.♕xe5 ♕f3#; 35.♗xe5 f4 36.♗xf4 ♖ce8-+

35...♕h1+ 36.♔e2 ♖g2+-+

Antal, Gergely (2498) - Goloshchapov, Alexander (2572)
Miskolc, 2004



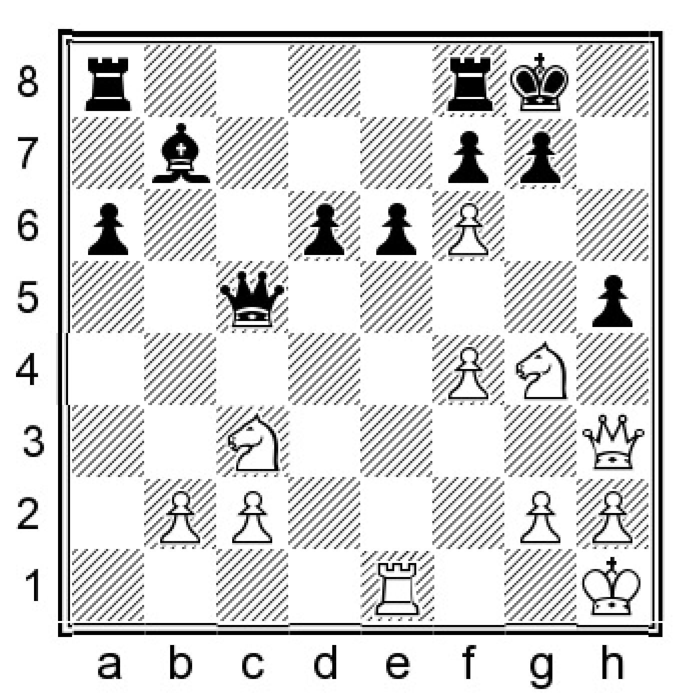
White to move.

Show/Hide Solution

21.♘g4!

21.♕h4? ♕d4!-+ Antal,Gergely 2498 - Goloshchapov,Alexander 2572

21...h5!



22.♖e5!! dxe5

22...hxg4 23.♕xg4+-

23.♕xh5 ♕c6

23...♖fd8 24.fxg7 f5 25.♘xe5 ♕xe5 (25...♗xg2+ 26.♔xg2 ♖d2+ 27.♔h1+-) 26.fxe5+-

24.♘h6+! gxh6 25.♕g4+ ♚h7 26.♕g7#

ROGERS' REMINISCENCES

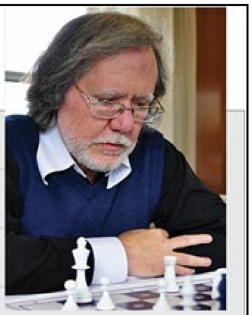
The Past is a Foreign Country

By GM Ian Rogers

The Players' Strike
Asia-Pacific Zonal, Jakarta 1987

Ian Rogers

- **Country:** Australia
- **Born:** 1960
- **Rating:** 2545
- **Peak rating:** 2618
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 1985



The Indonesian Foreign Minister, Dr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, came to my hotel room and explained that he had no choice: "Relations between China and Indonesia have been very bad but improving. It took me six months to arrange visas for the Chinese delegation and now they are threatening to go home if any sanction is applied to their players. I am head of Percasi [the Indonesian Chess Federation] but I cannot sacrifice relations between China and Indonesia for a chess tournament. So you will understand why I must sacrifice you."

In 1987 the Asia-Pacific Zone was the largest in the world, stretching from Mohe City in China to Invercargill in New Zealand.

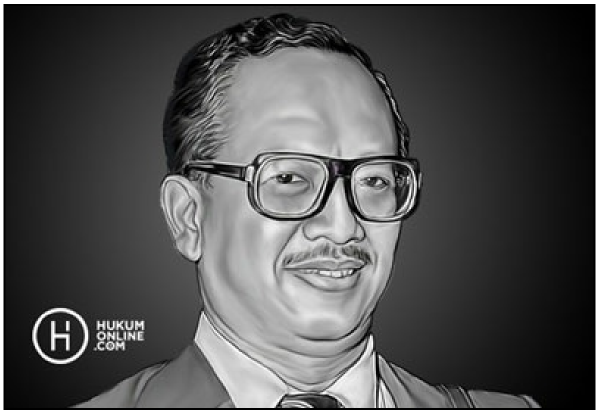
China, reconnecting with the international chess world after the Cultural Revolution, had joined the zone in 1975, their first major event being the 1977 Asian Teams Championship in Auckland. At that tournament the Chinese team brought along a talented teenager named Li Zunian to watch the games, though he spent much of his time playing frisbee with the Australian team.

However by 1981 it was becoming clear that the sporting ethics of the Chinese team leaders were significantly different to accepted norms. This was evident at the 1981 Asian Cities Championship in Hong Kong when Guangzhou beat Beijing 4 : 0 in a penultimate round match lasting 45 minutes, the Beijing players making it as obvious as possible that they were acting under orders.

Dr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja

Soon-to-be FIDE President Florencio Campomanes was delegated the responsibility of explaining to the Chinese the error of their ways. Evidently he failed, since at the same event in 1983, again in Hong Kong, Beijing beat Chengdu 4 : 0 in half an hour. After numerous complaints, their next match, against Guangzhou, finished 3 1/2 : 1/2 in a similarly short time span, the Chinese captain claiming that the lost half point proved that both teams were playing honestly!

Fortunately there had never been any similar problems in individual tournaments, so when the best six Chinese players, four men and two women, travelled from Jakarta to Cisarua for the Asia-Pacific Zonal, Open and Women's events, an ordinary tournament was expected. The first two players in each event would qualify for an Interzonal Tournament, the next stage in the World Championship cycle of that era.



To Paradise and Back

As the players' bus left the highway from Jakarta to Bandung at the Cisarua turnoff, it was clear that this would be no ordinary Zonal tournament.

It was dusk by the time the bus ascended a mountain road and reached the USSU Hotel, a complex of huts and buildings sitting in a sea of tropical vegetation. As the players emerged from the bus, many gasped: if the rolling green hills of Cisarua did not make the town the most beautiful, peaceful place on earth, then the competition must be amazing indeed.

Unfortunately our residential huts, which were designed as a series of small bedrooms connected by a bathroom (!), were not quite as special - in fact "They seemed not to have been occupied for the previous 10 years!" said Australia's Darryl Johansen.

Air conditioning was provided by slats in the walls, through which hungry local cats would walk in and out as they pleased. Dinner was also a tiny portion of curry and rice but the real disaster came when heavy overnight rain leaked into a number of buildings, including the playing hall.

As a consequence, the next morning the players were told to pack their bags, as the tournament was going to return to the Kartika Plaza hotel in Jakarta and the first round would be delayed by a day.

The Preliminaries

At the opening ceremony Mochtar, the Chairman of the Indonesian Chess Federation, who also happened to be Indonesia's Foreign Minister, spoke warmly about the Chinese delegation, expressing his joy that a sporting team from China had been able to come to Indonesia to compete.

Diplomatic relations between the two countries had been terminated in 1967 following the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of ethnic Chinese in Indonesia. 20 years later it was still illegal to bring a book written in Chinese script into Indonesia!

The players assembled next day, March 5th, for the first round. While the Women's Zonal was played as a round-robin, the Open Zonal was run under a preliminaries and finals system, with scores against other qualifiers from the two preliminaries carried over to the finals. As will be seen, the system used was defective and all future Asia-Pacific Open Zonals used the Swiss System.

The two preliminary groups proceeded smoothly, with plenty of hard fought chess and the names of the 12 A Final qualifiers not confirmed until the ninth and final round. Recent Candidate Eugene

Torre was the tournament's hot favourite, though he was forced to share top placing in the A Preliminary with China's Xu Jun.

JAKARTA, III 1987

Group A

cat. VI (2393) m = 5½

1–2. Torre, Xu Jun 6½, 3. Ardiansyah 6, 4–5. Johansen, Li Zunian 5½, 6. Handoko 5, 7. Antonio 4, 8. Chan 2½, 9. Liew 2, 10. Takemoto 1½

Group B

cat. VI (2393) m = 5½

1. Rogers 7½, 2–3. Mascariñas, Ye Jiangchuan 6½, 4. Adianto 6, 5. Balinas 5½, 6. Qi Jingxuan 4, 7. Depasquale 3½, 8. Dive 2½, 9. Sitanggang 2, 10. Fancy 1

Final A

cat. IX (2459) g = 8, m = 5½

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1	XU JUN		2495	■	½	½	½	1	0	½	1*	1*	1*	1	1	8	1
2	TORRE	g	2540	½	■	½	½	½	1	1	1*	1*	½	½	½	7½	2
3	YE JIANGCHUAN	g	2480	½	½	■	1	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	6½	3–4
4	LI ZUNIAN	m	2450	½	½	0	■	1	0	½	1*	½	1*	½	1*	6½	3–4
5	ARDIANSYAH	m	2425	0	½	½	0	■	1	1	1*	½	0	½	1	6	5
6	JOHANSEN	m	2410	1	0	½	1	0	■	½	0	1*	½	½	½	5½	6
7	MASCARIÑAS	m	2425	½	0	½	½	0	½	■	0	1	1	½	½	5	7
8	ROGERS	g	2525	0*	0*	½	0*	0*	1	1	■	1	½	0	½	4½	8–9
9	ADIANTO	g	2480	0*	0*	½	½	½	0*	0	0	■	1	1	1	4½	8–9
10	QI JINGXUAN	m	2490	0*	½	½	0*	1	½	0	½	0	■	1	0	4	10–12
11	HANDOKO	m	2415	0	½	0	½	½	½	½	1	0	0	■	½	4	10–12
12	BALINAS	g	2380	0	½	½	0*	0	½	½	½	0	1	½	■	4	10–12

Source Chess Informant 43, page 401

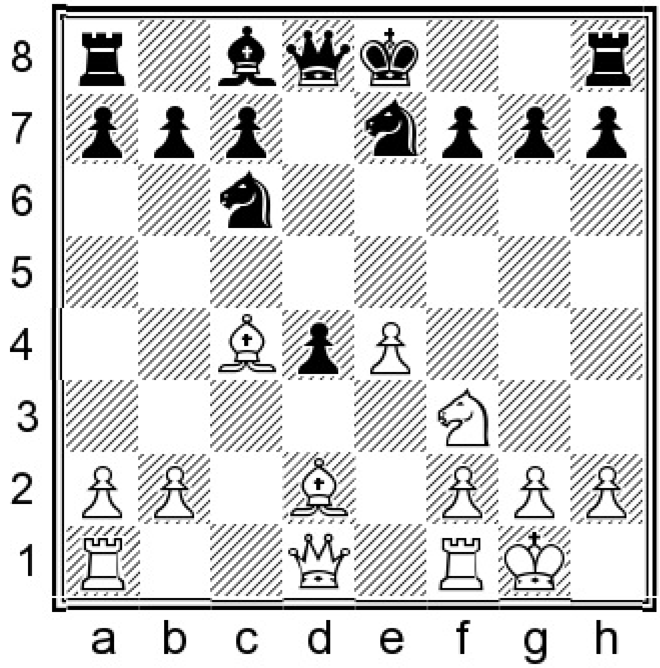
D20
Xu, Jun (2495) - Ardiansyah, Haji (2425)
Jakarta (zt) Preliminary A, 1987

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 e5 4.♘f3 exd4 5.♗xc4 ♗b4+ 6.♘bd2 ♘c6 7.O-O ♗xd2?! Following a 1984 Beliavsky,Alexander 2565 - Huebner,Robert 2620 game, Tilburg (- 38/488) but Huebner's idea is now considered dubious.

8.♗xd2!

Beliavsky had played 8.♕xd2 and after 8...♗e6 9.♗xe6 fxe6 10.b4, White's initiative did not ultimately lead to victory.

8...♘ge7

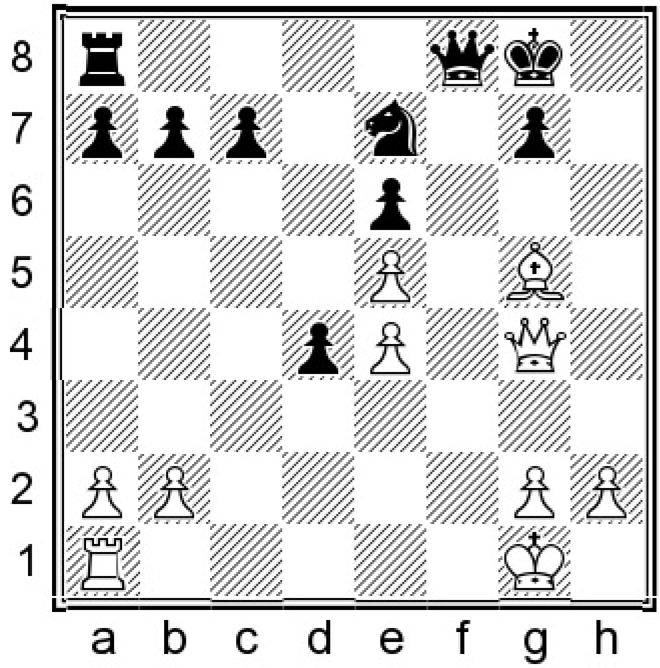


9.♘g5! ♘e5 10.♗b3 h6 11.f4! Effectively a refutation of Black's play.

11...hxg5

11...♗g4 was the best try, although after 12.♕c1 hxg5 13.fxe5 O-O White can attack from a different angle with 14.♗xg5 ♕d7 15.♗f6!

12.fxe5 O-O 13.♗xg5 ♗e6 14.♗xe6 fxe6 15.♖xf8+ ♕xf8 16.♕g4



16...♕f7!

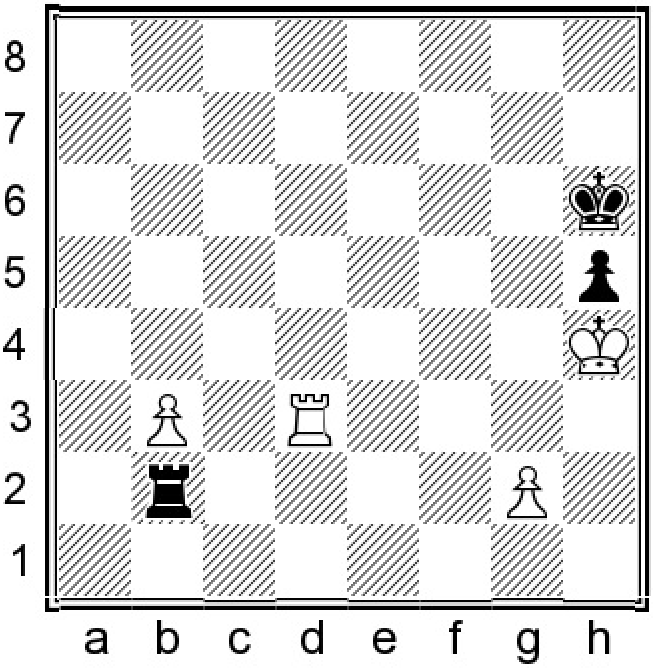
16...♘g6 was the last chance, although after 17.♖f1! ♕e8 18.♗f6! ♕f7 19.h4!, Black's king remains in trouble.

17.♖f1 ♕g6 18.h4! ♘c6 19.h5 ♘xe5

19...♕e8 20.♗f6 ♕f7 21.h6 is equally bad for Black.

20.♕f4 ♕xh5 21.♕xe5 ♖e8 22.♕xc7 d3 23.♗d2 1-0

Torre, Eugenio (2540) - Johansen, Darryl Keith (2410)
Jakarta (zt) Preliminary A, 1987



Eugenio Torre; Photo by Cathy Rogers

Torre had spoilt a winning position and the rook endgame is now close to a draw. However the top seed had one more trick up his sleeve...

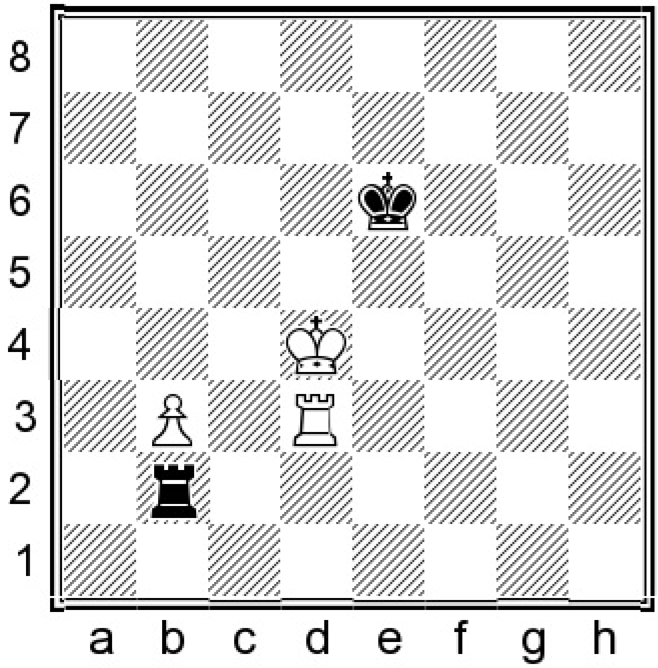
51.g4!

51.g3?? ♖h2# mate would not be a good idea.

51...hxg4?

The only defence lay in 51...♖h2+! 52.♔g3 ♖h1! 53.gxh5 ♖xh5!, with the point that after 54.♔f4 ♔g6 55.♔e4 ♔f6 56.♔d4 ♔e6 57.♔c4 ♖h8! 58.b4 ♖c8+, Black has reached a technical draw.

52.♔xg4 ♔g6 53.♔f4 ♔f6 54.♔e4 ♔e6 55.♔d4!

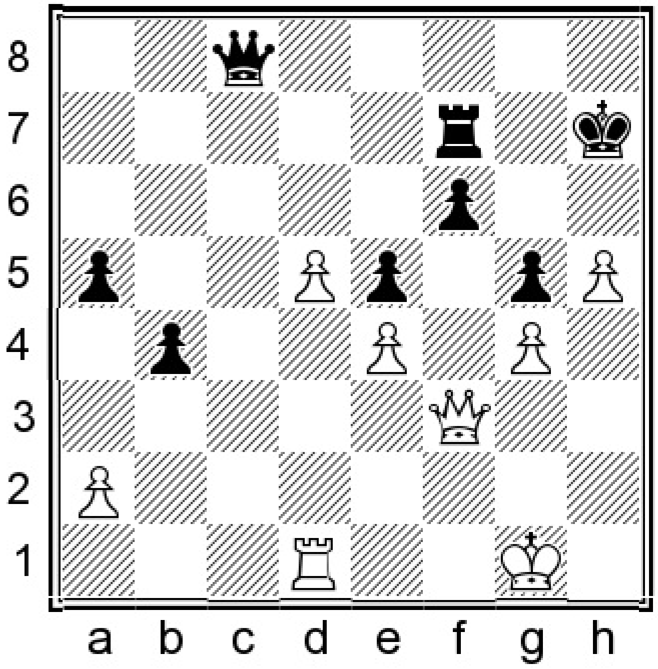


The point behind Torre's idea: 55...Kd6 loses to 56.Kc3 - check!

55...♖c2 56.♖c3 ♖d2+ 57.♔c5! ♔d7 58.♔b5! Now Black's king is cut off from the pawn but, unlike the earlier variation, Black is too late to adopt the check-from-the-front defence.

58...♖h2 59.b4 ♖h8 60.♔a6! Black can only delay but not prevent b5. **1-0**

Johansen, Darryl Keith (2410) - Xu, Jun (2495)
Jakarta (zt) Preliminary A, 1987



Xu Jun; Photo by Cathy Rogers

Johansen regained the half point lost to Torre in the final round of the preliminaries in another rook ending.

Johansen realises that all he needs to win in that line is to gain a single tempo...

43.d6!

43.♕f5+ ♕xf5 44.exf5 a4 45.d6 ♖d7 followed by ...b3 is not fast enough for White.

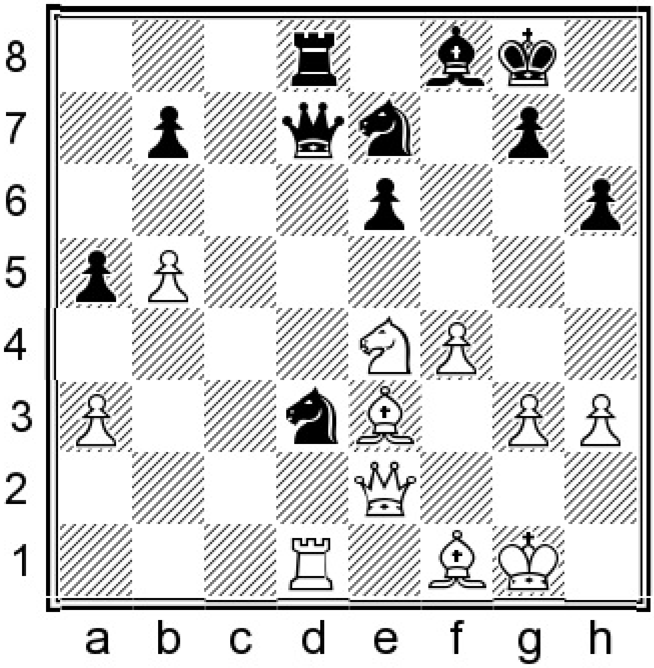
43...♕e6?

Missing 43...♕d7!, when 44.♕f5+ can be met by 44...♔h8!

44.♕f5+! ♕xf5 45.exf5 ♖d7 46.♔f2! Now the White king reaches d5 just on time.

46...a4 47.♔f3 ♔g7 48.♔e4 ♔f7 49.h6 ♔e8 50.♔d5 1-0

Xu, Jun (2495) - Handoko, Edhi (2415)
Jakarta (zt) Preliminary A, 1987

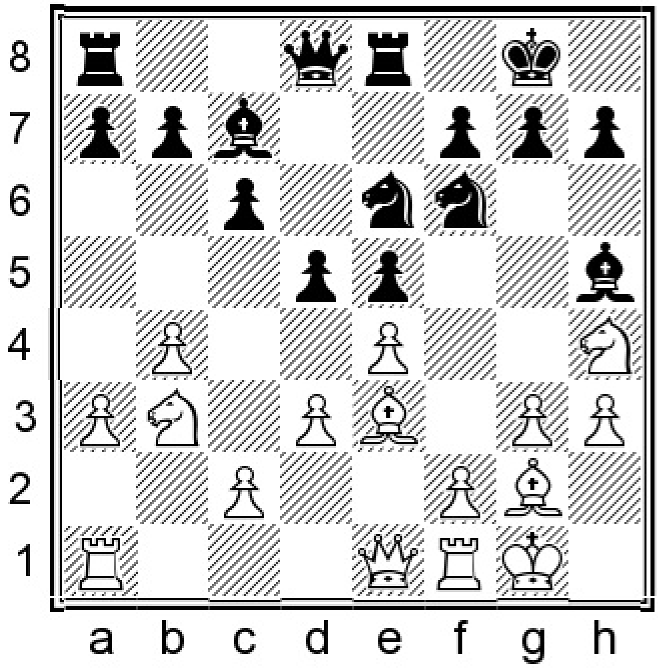


Black's knight is in big trouble.

Handoko thought he could save himself with **28...♘f5 29.♗f2 ♘xf4!?** but after **30.♘f6+! gxf6 31.♕g4+!+-** White won material and the game 11 moves later.

I topped the B group, a point ahead of Filipino Rico Mascarinas and China's Ye Jiangchuan.

Depasquale, Chris (2290) - Rogers, Ian (2525)
Jakarta (zt) Preliminary B, 1987

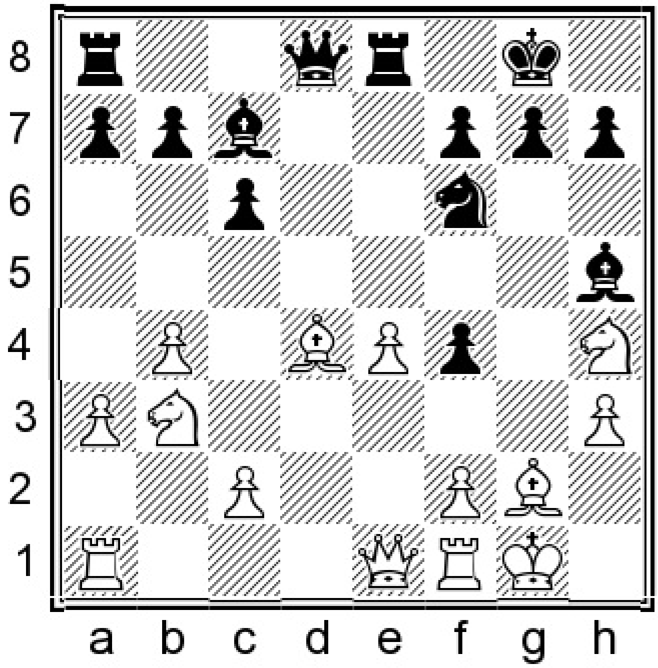


This looks like a standard King's Indian Attack position, until one sees...

14...♘f4! 15.gxf4?

15.f3 was ugly but necessary.

15...exf4 16.♗d4 dxe4 17.dxe4



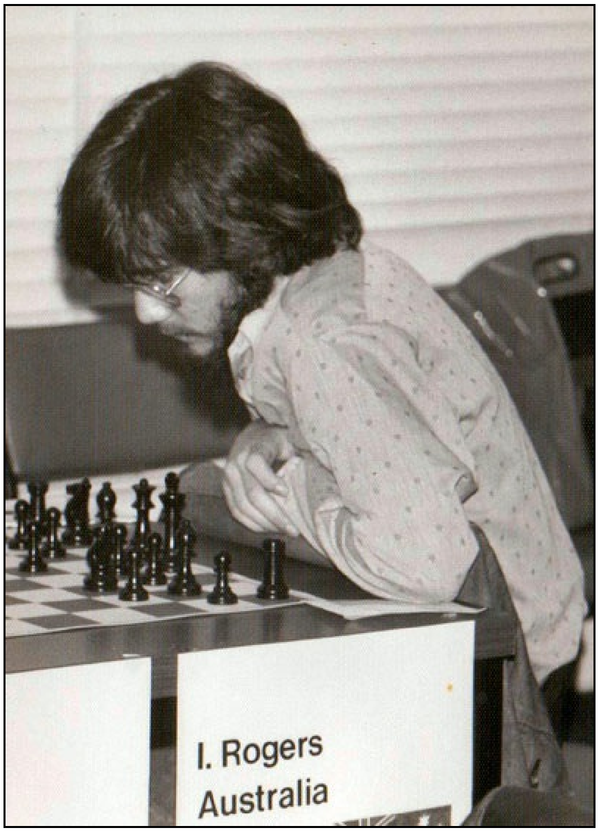
17...♘xe4! 18.♗xe4 ♕g5+! The point behind Black's combination.

19.♔h1 ♕xh4 20.f3 ♕xh3+ 21.♔g1 f5 22.♖f2 fxe4 0-1

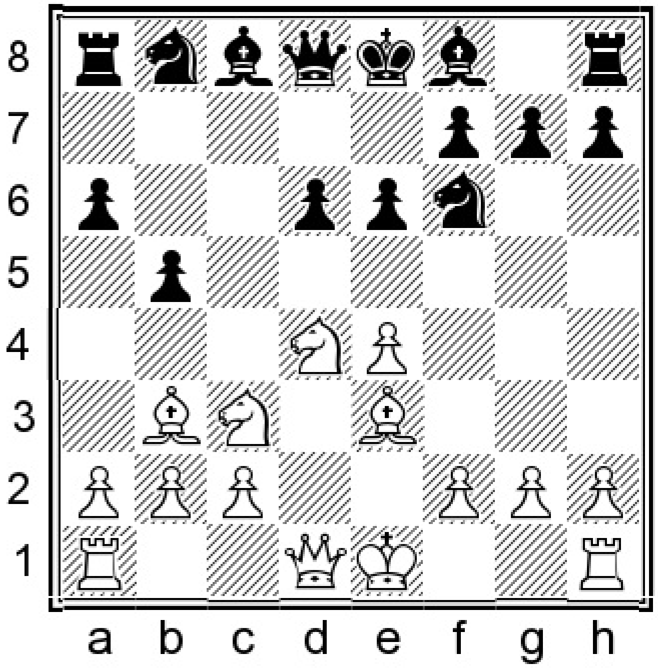
B87

Rogers, Ian (2525) - Sitanggang, Salor (2410)
Jakarta (zt) Preliminary B, 1987

Annotations from 1987.



1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 e6 6.♗e3 a6 7.♗c4?! b5 8.♗b3



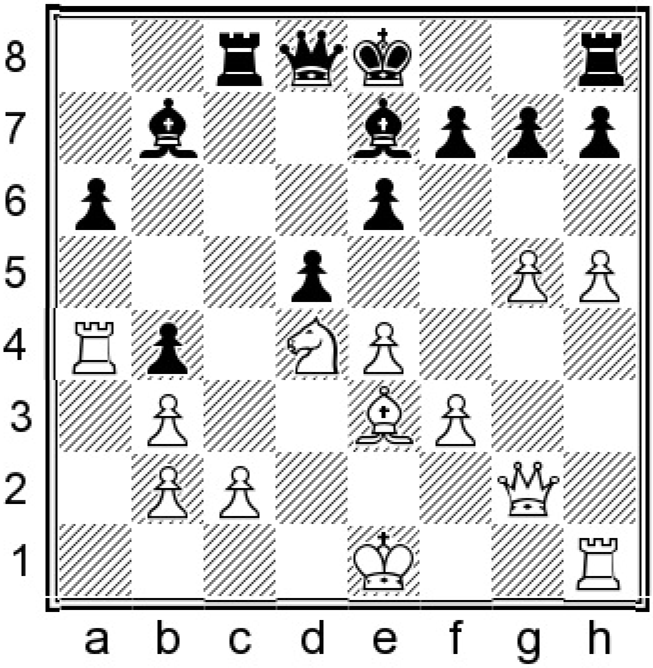
8...♗b7?!

In the Sozin Attack it is quite rare for Black to be able to snatch the e pawn with impunity but White's inaccurate move order has given Black the chance to play 8...b4 9.♘a4 ♘xe4 when White's compensation for the pawn is inadequate, notwithstanding the weakened b6-square. Playing quickly, by rote, Black forgot to even examine this possibility. Ian Rogers in 2021: Computers point out 10.♘xe6! ♗xe6 (10...fxe6 11.♘b6) 11.♗d5!, so the ?! against 8...Bb7 is undeserved.

9.f3 ♘c6 10.g4 ♘a5 11.h4 ♖c8 12.♕e2 White has been trying to save time by avoiding the normal moves Qe2 and 0-0-0 but 12.Qe2 is necessary to answer 12... Nc4 with 13.Bc4 Rc4 14.a4.

12...♘d7 13.g5 ♘c5 14.h5 ♗e7 15.♕g2 White's crude assault on the kingside has finally resulted in a genuine threat (16.h6) so Black is obliged to force matters on the oppossite flank. However the ensuing liquidation merely clarifies White's advantage.

15...b4 16.♘a4 ♘axb3 17.axb3 ♘xa4 18.♖xa4 d5

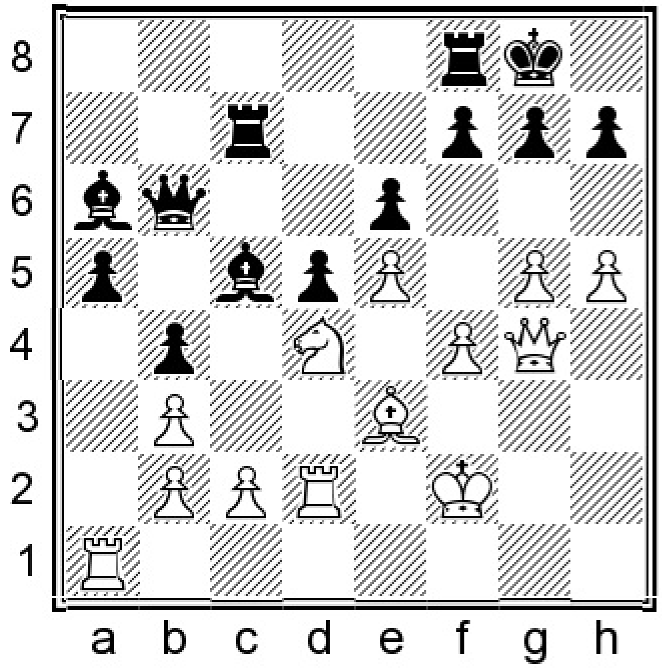


19.e5!? After the text move White maintains an imposing bind but his possibilities for a kingside breakthrough are severely reduced.

In a more adventurous mood White would have chosen 19.g6!? which at first sight seems very strong, yet it is not sure that White's assault will yield tangible results, and the newly opened centre might rebound on White's king.

19...♕c7 20.f4 ♗c5 21.♖h2 ♕b6 22.♕g1 O-O! Many players would be scared to place their king in the road of White's pawn storm but Sitanggang's judgement is correct. The only practical way for White to open lines on the kingside will be through the g6 advance but Black will always be able to keep lines closed with ...fg6 and ...h6.

23.♖d2 ♖c7 24.♖a1 a5 25.♕g4 ♗a6?! 26.♔f2



26...♖fc8?! ...Black fails to notice that White has set himself up for a kingside break.

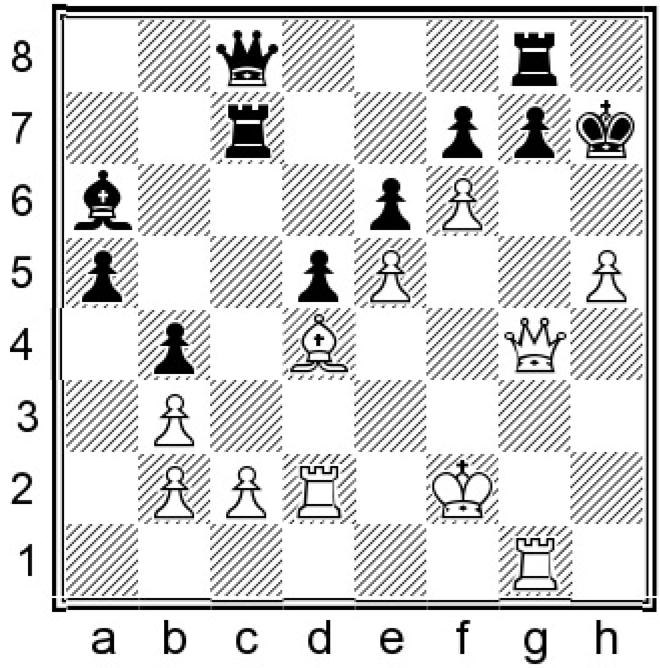
After 26...♗c8! it is hard to see how White could make progress.

27.g6! ♗xd4?! Now White's attack runs smoothly, aided by the bishops of opposite colours.

If Black had appreciated the dangers he faced after the text he might have tried 27...fxg6!? And now both 28.hxg6 (28.♕xe6+ ♕xe6 29.♘xe6 ♗xe3+ 30.♔xe3 ♖xc2 (30...♖e7!?) 31.♖xa5 is favourable for White but not completely clear.)) 28...♔h8 and (28...♖e8 threaten to block the kingside with ...h6. If White captures on h7, Black will block the pawn and switch his rooks to the f-file. White stands better but the position remains complicated.)

28.♗xd4 ♕b5 29.gxh7+ ♔xh7 30.♖g1 ♖g8 31.f5! ♕d7 32.♔e1! Setting up a pretty combination.

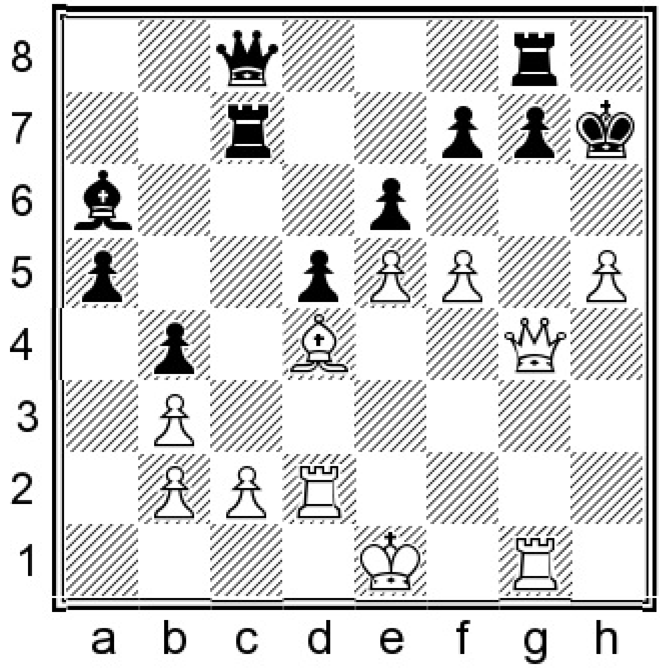
32.f6 ♕c8 would have allowed Black to defend for longer. Ian Rogers in 2021: Even here



33.♕g6+!! leads to a pretty win.

32...♕c8

If 32...exf5 33.♕g6+! wins the bishop on a6 since 33...fxg6 allows mate.



33.♕g6+! ♔h8 34.f6!! White can afford to do without his queen in exchange for an open h file.

34...♕f8

On 34...fxg6 35.hxg6 gxf6 (On 35...♖f8 36.♖h2+ ♔g8 37.♖gh1 forces mate.) 36.exf6, the double threats of 37.Rh1+ and 37.f7 give Black the bleak choice between 36...♖h7 (36...♖gg7 37.f7!) 37.f7+ ♖gg7 38.gxh7 and 36...Rgg7 37.f7!, but mate cannot be delayed long in either case.

35.♖dg2!

35.♖dg2 Now 35...fxg6 allows 36.hxg6 gxf6 37.♖h1+ ♔g7 38.♖h7#

1-0

The top six players from each group proceeded to the A Final, carrying over the score they achieved against the other qualifiers from their group. I carried over 3 1/2 points, while Torre, Xu and Mascarinas had 3.

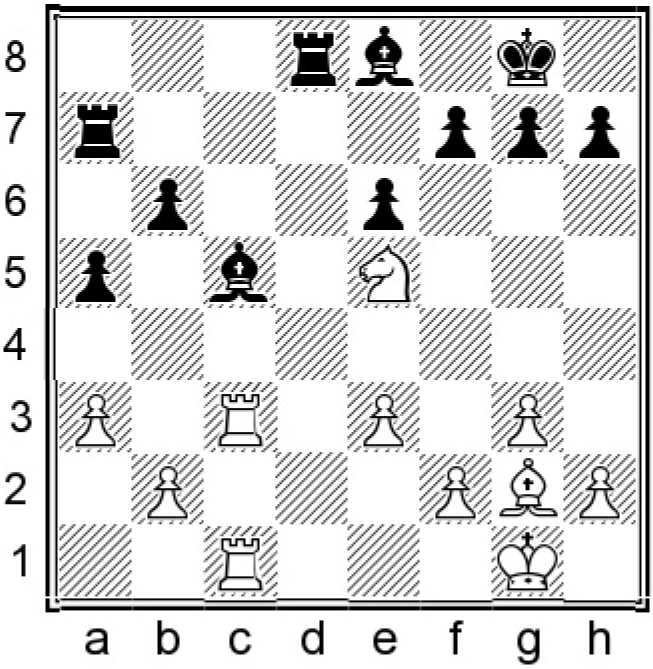
The Final

The sixth qualifier from my preliminary group was Qi Jingxuan, the Chinese legend who had been a promising teenager in the 1960s but lost almost a decade of his career when chess was banned. Qi entered the A Final with only 1/5 and no chance to qualify.

The Chinese players were paired together in the first three rounds of the final. (Five results carried over, so the 12 player final was only six rounds.)

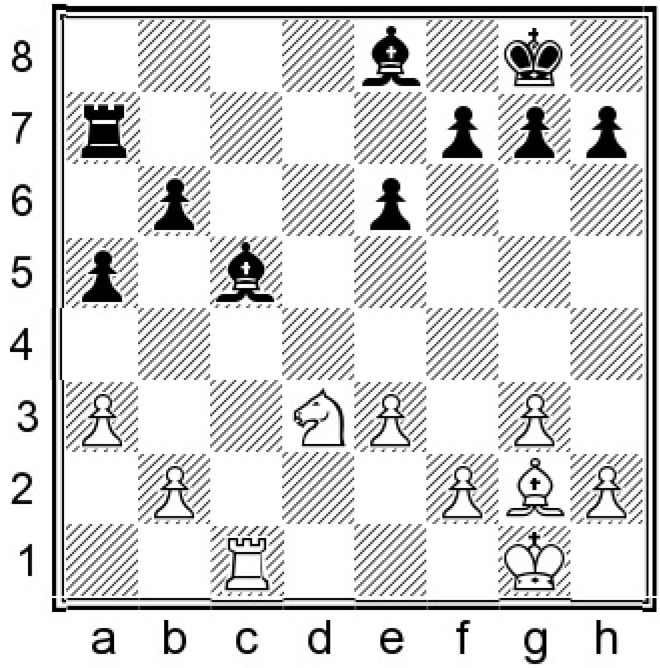
Qi's first game was against Li. It lasted just over an hour and both players showed no interest in the game at all. Qi resigned as soon as he had managed to lose a pawn in an endgame that had been dead equal a few moves earlier.

Li, Zunian (2450) - Qi, Jingxuan (2490)
Jakarta (zt) Final A, 1987



There is absolutely nothing going on in this position, but the game was over in just seven moves (and five minutes on the clock).

24.♖d3 ♖xd3 25.♘xd3



25...♗d6??

25...♖c7 is dead equal.

26.♖c8 ♔f8 27.♗c6 ♖e7 28.♔f1 f6 29.♔e2 ♔f7 30.♗xe8+ ♖xe8 31.♖c6 1-0

I lodged a protest, which resulted in the Appeals Committee reprimanding Qi for unsportsmanlike behaviour.

In the second round Qi changed his method and lost his game to Xu Jun on time, spending much of the game staring at the ceiling and not bothering to even attempt to reach the time control. The win took Xu into the tournament lead, half a point ahead of myself and Torre.

In the second round Li lost another strange game against Ye Jiangchuan; extra strange since Li was half a point ahead of Ye at the time. However Ye was viewed as a rising star and Li, 36, had to follow orders. Like Qi, Li made it as clear as he could that he was putting no effort into the game.

After the second round I launched a new protest, asking for Qi to be expelled from the tournament; a penalty which would not affect the leading standings but would show that ignoring the previous round's reprimand had some consequences.

The Appeals Committee decided they did not have the power to resolve such a protest, although they did recommend verbally to the organisers that scoring 1/ 2 : 1/2 for the Qi - Xu game might be an appropriate compromise solution. The organisers took no action, so a group of players decided to take matters into their own hands.

The Strike

When the next round began many of the players made it clear they were dissatisfied with the status quo and staged a strike, arriving at the playing hall but refusing to move. After 15 minutes of "play", with four of the six games still in the starting position, the organisers decided to cancel the round and hold a meeting of all players and organisers that evening. (The B Final and the Women's Zonal proceeded as normal.)

The mood at the players' meeting was tense. Xu was the most aggressive in arguing in that Chinese games were entirely legitimate, while also accusing me of receiving thrown games from Chris Depasquale (see game above) and Johansen.

D36
Johansen, Darryl Keith (2410) - Rogers, Ian (2525)
Jakarta (zt) Final A, 1987

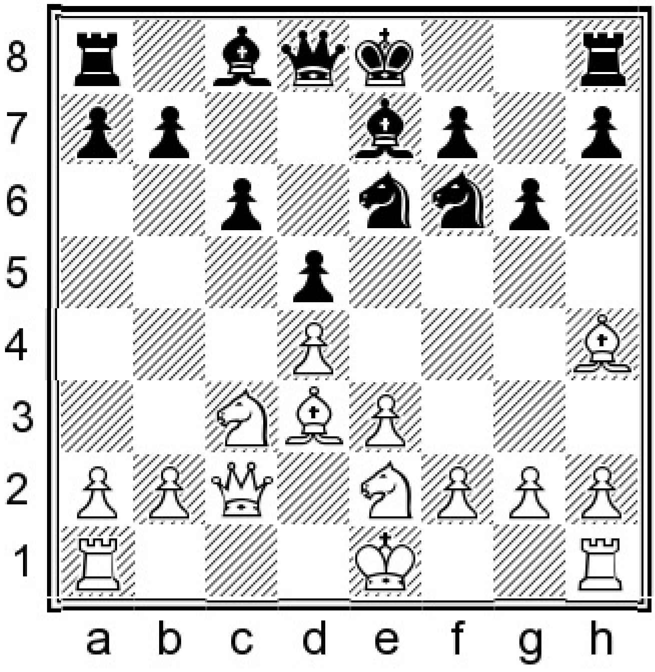
Annotations from 1987.

1.c4 e6 2.d4 ♘f6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♗g5 ♘bd7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.e3 c6 7.♗d3 ♗e7 8.♕c2 ♘f8!? Black's manoeuvre, which aims ro exchange light squared bishops through ...Ne6, ...g6, ...Ng7 and ...Bf5, is rarely seen nowadays, partly because it is an extremely slow method of achieving a slight positional gain and also because the more usual defensive systems against the Exchange Variation have been found to be completely satisfactory.

9.♘ge2

An earlier game in this tournament, Dive,Russell John 2235 - Rogers,Ian 2525, had continued 9.♘f3 ♘e6 10.♗h4 g6 11.♘e5 ♘g7 12.♕b3 when Black could have laid claim to a slight advantage after 12...♕b6! (instead of 12...O-O 13.O-O ♕b6 as played.)

9...♘e6 10.♗h4 g6



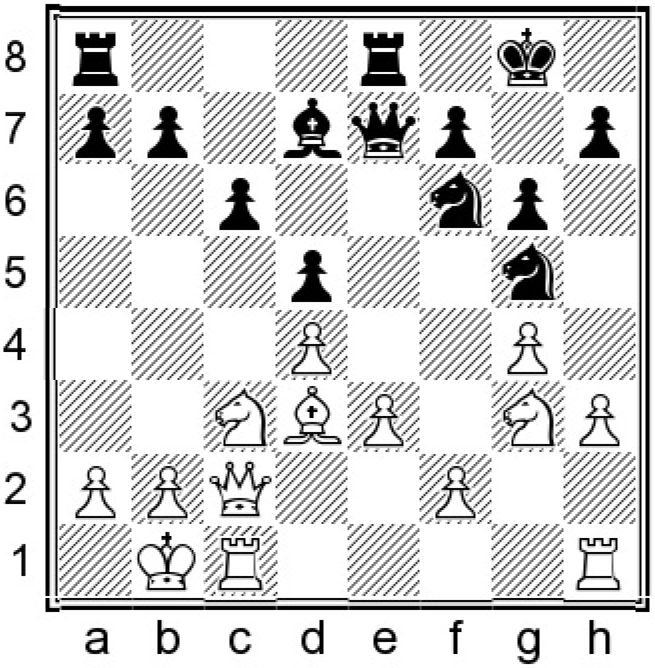
11.h3!? Quite logical, planning to answer 11...Ng7 with 12.g4.

11.f3, with a similar idea, may also be good.

11...♘h5 12.♗xe7 ♕xe7 13.O-O-O ♗d7 Leaving White wondering whether Black is going to choose the queenside as his king's residence. White's next few moves prepare to initiate a queenside attack should the need arise.

14.♔b1 ♘f6 15.♖c1 O-O 16.g4 Now that Black has committed his king to the kingside White wastes no time in beginning a pawn storm. An alternative plan based on f3 and e4 was also possible, but the text forces Black to seek immediate counterplay on pain of mate.

16...♖fe8 17.♘g3 ♘g5!?



18.f4!? White spent half an hour on this move, an attempt to provoke the following sacrifice. In a more peaceful mood - White had declined a draw offer on move 12.

- White might have chosen 18.h4 ♘ge4 19.g5 ♘xc3+ 20.♕xc3 ♘e4 21.♗xe4 dxe4 22.h5 with a small but comfortable edge.

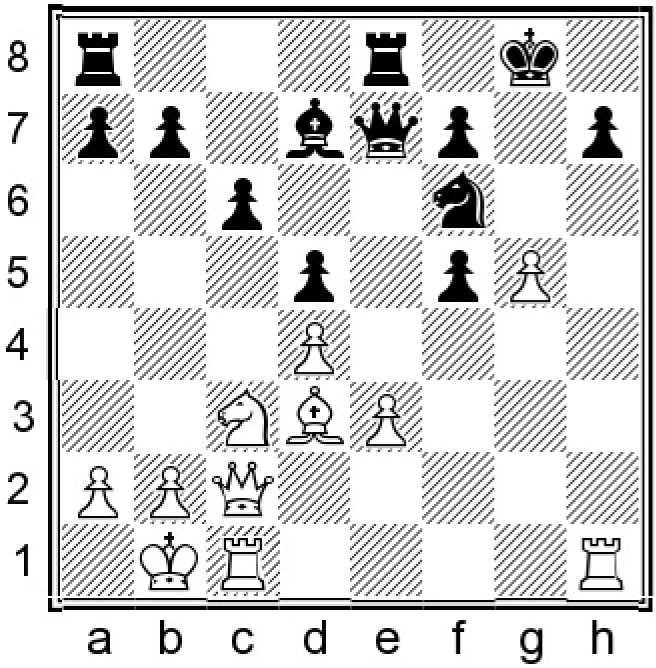
18...♘xh3! 19.♘f5?! An imaginative counter which, however, just falls short.

White's best chance lay in acceptance of Black's offer, viz 19.♖xh3 ♗xg4 20.♖hh1! (20.♖h6 ♕xe3 21.♘ge2 ♗xe2! 22.♘xe2 ♘g4 23.♖h4 ♘f2 wins for Black.) 20...♕xe3, when Black has full material compensation for his piece but the position remains quite unclear.

19...gxf5 20.g5!

White's attack rapidly peters out after either 20.gxf5 ♕xe3 21.♕g2+ ♔h8 22.♖xh3 ♕xf4, or 20.♖xh3 fxg4 21.♗xh7+ ♔g7, etc.

20...♘xg5! 21.fxg5



21...♘g4! A shock for White!

He had spent most of his time on 21...♘e4 22.♗xe4 fxe4 23.♖cf1!, preventing ...Bf5, since if now 23...♕xg5 24.♖fg1 ♗g4 White wins after 25.♕h2 h5 26.♖xg4!

22.♖h5 After playing this move - the best chance, preserving the g-pawn - White was down to his last 10 minutes to reach move 40.

The more obvious 22.♗xf5 is less hopeful after 22...♘xe3 23.♗xh7+ ♔g7 24.♕h2 ♕xg5, when a timely ...Rh8 will lead to mass exchanges. Ian Rogers in 2021: Computers regard this position as 0.00(!) after both 25.Ka1 and 25.Qd2.

22...♘xe3 23.♕h2 ♘g4 24.♕h4 h6! By keeping the h-file closed, Black puts an end to White's attack.

25.♗e2

Ian Rogers in 2021: Again, 25.♖f1 ♕e3 26.♗c2 is claimed to be 0.00 by modern computers.

25...♕e3 26.♗xg4?! A blunder while desperately short of time. In any case ...Re6-g6 was about to leave Black's kingside rock solid.

26...fxg4 27.g6!? fxg6 28.♖xh6 White resigned without waiting for 28...Bf5, when mate follows. **0-1**

It was soon agreed by all but the Chinese that:

(a) there was no question that both of Qi's losses in the A Final had been rigged, and

(b) an acceptable penalty would be 1/2 : 1/2 for Qi - Xu (since the Li - Qi game was unlikely to affect the qualifying race). Such a ruling which would leave Xu, Torre and myself tied for first place and, with no players closer than a point behind, favourites for the two qualifying places.

One key person not present at the meeting was Mochtar, who was busy in East Timor when the dispute first exploded, though he was kept informed about developments in Jakarta.

Overnight the Chinese Head of Delegation made it clear that he refused to accept the decision made at the players' meeting. The organisers were left in a horrible situation; enforce the agreed penalty and they would lose all the Chinese players including the two leaders of the Women's Zonal.

The organisers passed the buck to Zone President Max Wotulo who, in consultation with Mochtar, made a ruling: the results of the Chinese games were to stand.

Withdrawals

When round 3 of the A final began, a day late, I visited the playing hall just before the games began and explained to the arbiters that I would be withdrawing from the tournament and forfeiting my remaining games. I then returned to my room elsewhere in the hotel.

Half an hour later there was a knock on my door and I welcomed in the Indonesian Foreign Minister. Mochtar explained that he had not come to talk me out of my withdrawal and he fully understood my decision. However I should appreciate that there were no diplomatic relations between China and Indonesia and bringing the Chinese players to Jakarta was a major step forward. Mochtar said that it was unthinkable that the Chinese team could withdraw; this was bigger than chess.

Over the board. Ye and Xu played a short draw but they had no help from Qi, who was happy to accept a draw in a dominating position against Torre.

That evening came a bombshell. Local hero Utut Adianto called an informal press conference to announce that he was lodging a new protest and that he would withdraw from the tournament if no action was taken by the time play resumed at 2pm the next day. His protest was lodged with the support of two Filipino team members, Rosendo Balinas and Mascarinas.

21-year-old Adianto was the player whom the organisers could least afford to lose - Indonesia's rising star and best chance to qualify for the Interzonal. Besides anything else, Adianto's withdrawal would ruin any contest for the Interzonal places as Xu and Torre would then receive two forfeits from their final three games and could not be caught.

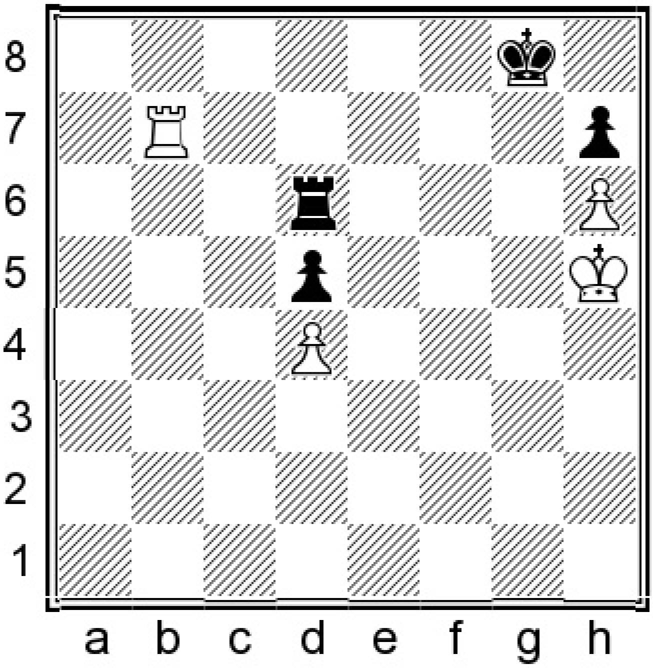
Privately Adianto explained to me that he was scared of the possible consequences of his decision and feared being expelled from university or being banned from playing.

Both tournament and government officials tried to talk Adianto out of withdrawing. At 2pm Adianto forfeited against Xu but the game was declared postponed due to "illness". The game was rescheduled, but Adianto stayed away. It was rescheduled again and only after the third "game" was Xu given the point on forfeit. (A healthy spectator who looked remarkably like Adianto attended all the remaining rounds.)

The final rounds saw many short draws and forfeits but was notable for Qi's determination. Qi finished with 2 1/2/3, as if to say "I am a much better player than they made me look".

A final round draw would have left Ardiansyah in third place - having only enjoyed one forfeit win - but that looks a remote possibility given Black's passivity.

Qi, Jingxuan (2490) - Ardiansyah, Haji (2425)
Jakarta (zt) Final A, 1987



Qi now cashes in, picking up the h-pawn.

50.♖b8+? ♔f7 51.♖h8 ♔f6

Black misses a remarkable defence. After 51...♖g6! 52.♖xh7+ ♔f6 53.♖d7 ♖g5+ 54.♔h4 it seems that the rest should be easy for White. However here Black can sacrifice a second pawn with 54...♖g1! 55.♖xd5 ♔g6! 56.♖d6+ ♔f5! when, surprisingly, White can make no progress, e.g. 57.d5 ♖g2 58.♖a6 ♖d2! 59.d6 ♔g6 60.d7+ ♔h7= and White will lose one of his pawns leaving a dead draw.

52.♖xh7 ♖d8 53.♖g7 ♔f5 54.h7 ♖h8 55.♔h6 1-0

The New Zonal

Filipino Grandmaster and lawyer, Balinas was deeply distressed with the way events had turned out and was the final player to withdraw, meaning that three of the five competing Grandmasters did not complete the tournament. Balinas composed a letter asking for a completely new final to be held and then managed to convince 11 of the 12 players in the A Final to sign it. (Only Xu refused.) Balinas argued that there was a precedent for such a rerun, given that only two years earlier Filipino FIDE President Florencio Campomanes had cancelled the World Championship match between Karpov and Kasparov and ordered a new match be played from 0 : 0.

Wotulo accepted Balinas' proposal and declared the A Final annulled. Generously, the Indonesian organisers agreed to fund and hold a second Zonal final six weeks later in Jakarta. The new tournament would start from scratch - no carry over points - with compatriots meeting in the very early rounds.

After the players had returned to their respective countries the politicians took over. FIDE's Grandmaster Council supported holding the tournament again, but the Chinese Chess Federation issued a strong statement insisting that the original tournament results should stand. Rather more surprisingly, the Philippines Chess Federation overruled their players and supported the CCF.

Ultimately FIDE President Campomanes made the final decision, putting an end to any idea that Player Power might overturn corruption. One day after the tournament concluded the FIDE President - having been in contact with Torre but before receiving the tournament report - told Wotulo that no second Zonal would be held. Four week's later Campomanes' official decision was published by FIDE: Xu and Torre were free to compete at the 1987 Interzonals.

Mochtar, who died in June 2021 aged 92, ended his decade as Indonesia's Foreign Minister in 1988, by which time China and Indonesia were negotiating on normalising relations, an agreement which was officially signed in 1990.

In the same year, a new Chinese Head of Delegation, Mr Sun, approached me at the start of the next Asia-Pacific Zonal tournament in Shah Alam, Malaysia. Sun assured me that there would be no problems with the Chinese players unlike 1987, and he was 100% right. Indeed, at that Zonal, not just one but two Chinese players qualified for the Interzonal, with Ye Rongguang earning his final GM norm and becoming China's first Grandmaster.

Postscript

Fast forward to 2008. My wife Cathy and I, visiting Shanghai, were invited to dinner with Li Zunian and his wife. The meal, at an amazing seafood restaurant, featured a special dish of sea snails which, Li explained, was banned in China but which the chef would cook for special customers. "Why is it banned?" we asked innocently. "Hepatitis," came the reply. We passed on the sea snails.

Li Zunian; Photo by Cathy Rogers

Li explained that after he returned from Jakarta in 1987 he and Qi were blamed for the problems at the Zonal. He was told that he should have called the Sports Committee in Beijing before agreeing to follow the instructions of the delegation chief to throw games. And, it was explained to Li on his return, if an official required him to throw the games, he should have made it less obvious.

After the Jakarta Zonal Li was sacked as coach of the national team and was banned not only from travelling abroad but from competing in most major tournaments in China. His playing career over, Li ended up running a small chess school in Shanghai, before a modest rehabilition began in 2003 and he was allowed to assist the Shanghai team.

Nonetheless, Li explained that he wanted to apologise to me for ruining my life! I apologised to him, pointing out that I only had to wait three years for the next Interzonal whereas his life had been turned upside down. However Li was insistent; he had wronged me and a profound apology was required.

I thanked him and the 10 course dinner continued. The Zonal was no longer discussed and we moved on to new subjects such as Li's conviction that if you hit students on the head with a ruler when they make mistakes, they will become stronger players. I would argue that, as Jakarta 1987 showed, the end doesn't always justify the means.

GUNNERMURI TALES

By GM Marian Petrov

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

Game Changers?

PART II

Yet Another Rival Dispatched

The third World Chess Championship was held in New York City in late 1890 and early 1891. The title holder Wilhelm Steinitz narrowly defeated his Hungarian challenger, Isidor Gunsberg.

Marian Petrov

- **Country:** Bulgaria
- **Born:** 1975
- **Rating:** 2461
- **Peak rating:** 2549
- **Title:** Grandmaster since 2010

Chess journalist Leopold Hoffer asked Steinitz why he hadn't chosen George Henry Mackenzie or Gunsberg for the earlier match. Steinitz replied that the former had refused and the latter had a worse record than Chigorin. In support of Gunsberg, Chess Monthly declared that Chigorin should have played Gunsberg instead of Steinitz.

The La Habana Chess Club announced it would host a match between Gunsberg and the Russian, even if the latter lost to Steinitz. Gunsberg drew the La Habana match against Chigorin in early 1890. That result was enough to convince Gunsberg to challenge Steinitz to a title match. The Manhattan Chess Club served as intermediary for the preliminary negotiation, and Steinitz settled in principle to play for a stake of $1,500. James Mason objected to the choice on the grounds that Steinitz favoured challengers who were both fellow Jews and weaker players than himself. Steinitz labeled the objection "impudent" and insinuated that Mason was drunk when he made it.

At New York 1889, Gunsberg had performed considerably better than Mason, but Mason suggested that Gunsberg should play him first as a condition for a match against Steinitz. However, the Champion rejected this proposal. The conditions were agreed upon on December 6, 1890. The winner would be first to 10 games (draws not counting), or most wins after 20 games. A draw would be declared in the case of 9 wins each. The stakes were $1,500 with 2/3 for the winner. The winner of a game received $20, the loser $10 and in case of a draw, they both got $10. British amateurs contributed 75 pounds towards Gunsberg's share of the prize fund.

The match began on December 9, 1890 in the Manhattan Chess Club. Club Vice President Colonel G. F. Betts opened the proceedings and introduced the players. The referee was Isaac Leopold Rice, and the umpires were Holladay for Steinitz and August Vorrath for Gunsberg, while Fred Mintz was in overall control of the match. They played in a small room between 13:30 to 17: 00 and 19:00 to 22:30, while the spectators followed the games on a wallboard in a larger room downstairs. Initially, the match received less interest than expected because Steinitz was considered a huge favourite.

Steinitz took an early lead with a win in game 2. The match was suspended after game 4 because Steinitz had a bad cold. In game 5 Steinitz lost with the white pieces in a Queen's Gambit, after which he vowed to keep playing this opening until he won with it. With Gunsberg pulling ahead, interest in the match increased. Still not fully recovered from his cold, Steinitz managed to win game 6. During this game, Gunsberg exceeded the time limit but Steinitz refused to claim a win.

Steinitz reached his goal of winning with the Queen's gambit in game 7 and retained the lead for the rest of the match. After a brief Christmas break, Gunsberg struck in game 12 with the Evans Gambit. Curiously, prior to the match, Steinitz had challenged Gunsberg to a theoretical duel in this opening. The contested position had also previously arisen in the adjourned Steinitz - Chigorin cable match and the public had been looking forward to Gunsberg taking up Steinitz's challenge.

Steinitz did not show up for game 18. The telegram he had sent to excuse himself had been delayed. Gunsberg could have claimed the game but did not. Those were some peculiar noble days!

NEW YORK CITY 1890/91
The third World Chess Championship Match

The winner would be first to 10 wins (draws not counting), or most wins after 20 games. A draw would be declared if the score reached 9 wins each.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		Wins
Wilhelm STEINITZ	½	1	½	0	0	1	1	½	½	1	½	0	1	½	½	0	½	1	½	10½	6
Isidor GUNSBERG	½	0	½	1	1	0	0	½	½	0	½	1	0	½	½	1	½	0	½	8½	4

C52
Gunsberg, Isidor - Steinitz, Wilhelm
New York (wch-m/14), 1891

Wilhelm Steinitz

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.b4 ♗xb4 5.c3 ♗a5 6.O-O ♕f6 7.d4 h6 As usual, Steinitz is provoking the opponent with some strange moves and simply invites the pressure on his position.

8.♗b5?

Simpler is 8.♕b3 ♘ge7 9.♘xe5 ♘xe5 10.dxe5 ♕xe5 11.♗xf7+±

8...♘ge7 9.♗a3 exd4

9...a6 10.♗xc6 ♘xc6 is much safer.

10.e5 ♕e6 11.cxd4 ♗b4

11...O-O 12.d5 ♕xd5 13.♕xd5 ♘xd5 14.♗xf8 ♔xf8∓

12.♗b2

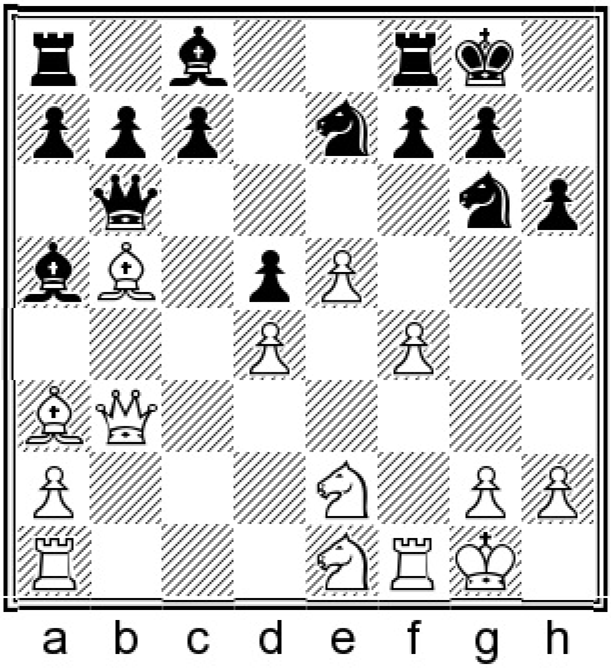
12.♗xb4 ♘xb4 13.♘c3 O-O=

12...d5 13.♘c3 O-O 14.♘e2 ♘g6

14...f6 15.♘f4 ♕f7 16.♘d3 ♗a5∓

15.♕b3 ♗a5 16.♘e1 ♘ce7 17.f4 White is trying to create some play on the kingside while Black has to find a good defensive plan.

17...♕b6 18.♗a3



18...f5?

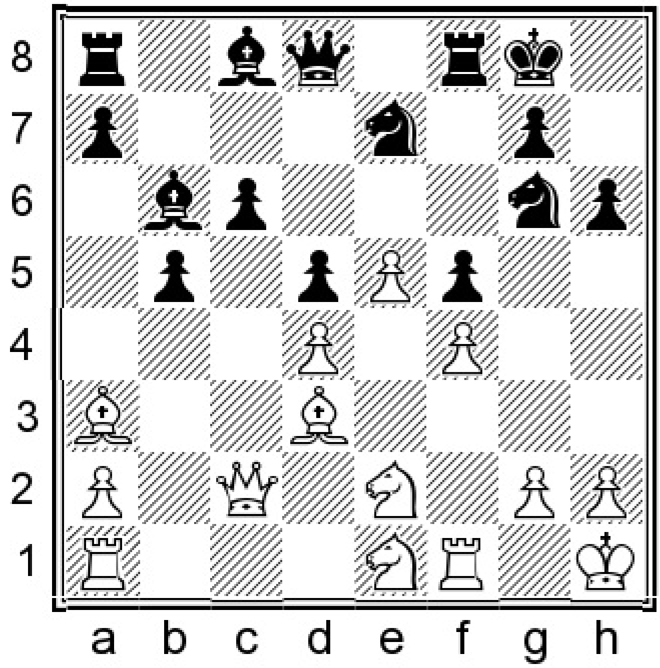
18...♗f5 19.♗c5 ♕e6 was better.

19.♕a4 Now Black has a very passive position.

19...c6 20.♗d3 ♕d8 21.♕c2

21.♘f3 ♗b6 22.♕c2 ♗e6 23.♖ab1 also keeps the edge for White.

21...b5 22.♔h1 ♗b6



23.g4! a5 24.♖g1

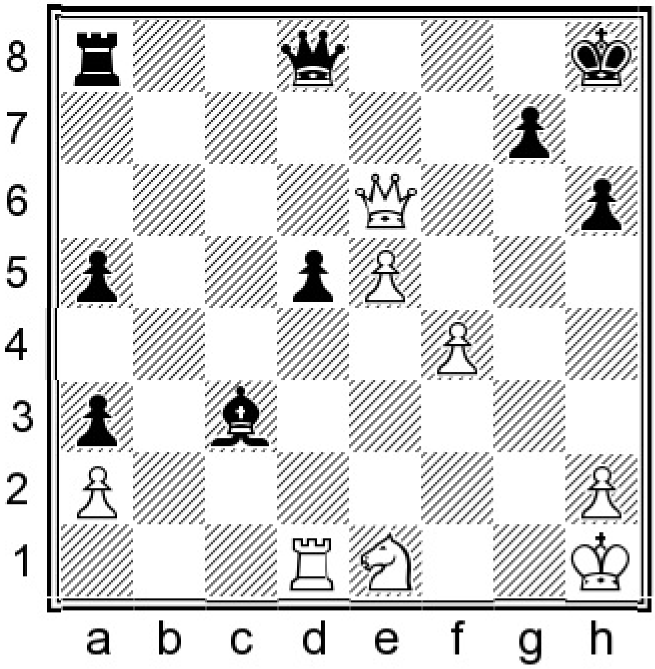
24.♗d6! It is important to keep the bishop active and then to prepare the attack. 24...♗c7 25.♗xc7 ♕xc7 26.♘g2 ♗d7 27.♘g3+-

24...b4 25.gxf5 ♗xf5 26.♗xf5 ♖xf5 27.♖xg6 bxa3 28.♖xc6?

28.♘f3 White should have kept more pieces on the board. 28...♖f7 29.e6 ♖f8 30.♖g4±

28...♘xc6 29.♕xf5 ♘xd4 Now black is doing fine.

30.♘xd4 ♗xd4 31.♕e6+ ♔h8 32.♖d1 ♗c3



33.♖xd5??

33.♘f3=

33...♕b8! With the last move Black suddenly has advantage but probably being under pressure so long he just wanted to finish safely so he offered a draw. **1/2-1/2**

Steinitz leads 5 : 4 and Gunsberg has to try to win the game.

C52
Gunsberg, Isidor - Steinitz, Wilhelm
New York (wch-m/18), 1891

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.b4 ♗xb4 5.c3 ♗a5 It seems that the Champion enjoys to defend difficult positions and is not afraid from any sort of attack.

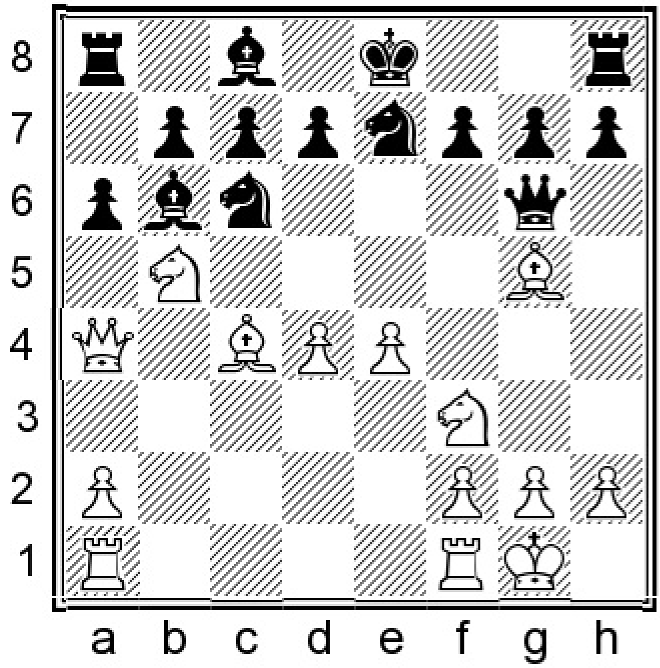
6.O-O ♕f6 7.d4 ♘ge7 8.♕a4 ♗b6 9.♗g5

9.d5±

9...♕d6 10.♘a3 exd4 11.♘b5 ♕g6 12.cxd4 a6

It was not easy to find and evaluate the line after 12...O-O 13.d5 ♘e5 14.♘xe5 ♕xg5 15.♘xf7 ♔xf7 (15...♖xf7 16.d6 c6 17.dxe7 ♕xe7 18.♗xf7+ ♔xf7 19.♘a3) 16.d6+ ♔e8↑

Isidor Gunsberg



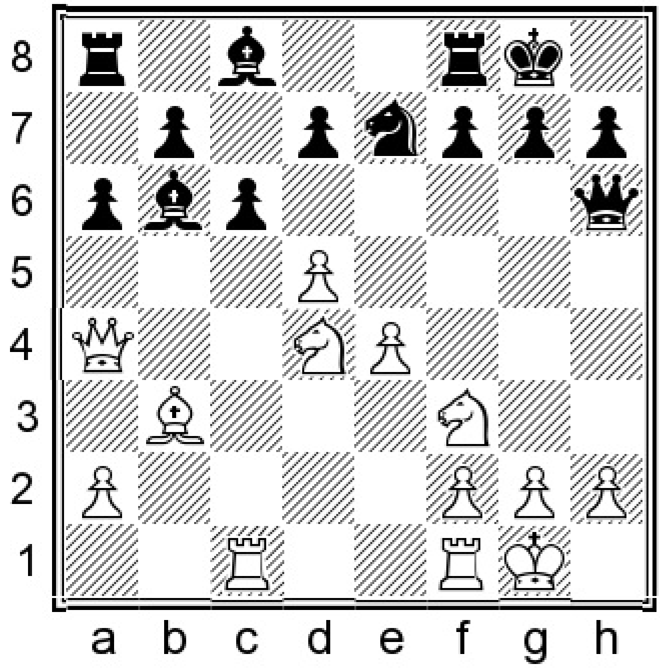
13.d5?

13.♗xe7 White should have just take and Black is losing the castling rights after which his king has huge problems. 13...♔xe7 (13...♘xe7 14.♘e5 ♕f6 15.♗xf7++-) 14.♘c3↑

13...♘e5 Now Black is completely fine.

14.♘xe5 ♕xg5 15.♘f3 ♕h6 16.♗b3 O-O 17.♖ac1 It seems that White has the initiative but the champion finds a very nice plan.

17...c6 18.♘bd4



18...c5! 19.♘e2 d6 20.♘g3 ♗d8 21.e5 b5 With the last few moves Black managed to improve his pawn structure and gained lot of space.

22.♕a3 c4 23.exd6 ♘xd5 24.♗c2 b4 25.♕a4 ♕xd6 Apparently, Black is totally winning.

26.♗e4 ♘b6 27.♕c2 ♖b8 28.♗xh7+ ♔h8 29.♖cd1 ♕h6 30.♗f5 White managed to take one pawn back but the passed pawns are very dangerous.

30...g6?

30...♗f6∓

31.♗xc8 ♖xc8 32.♕b2+ and Black is losing a very important pawn.

32...♕g7

32...c3 33.♕xb4 ♖c4=

33.♕xb4 ♗c7 34.♖d4

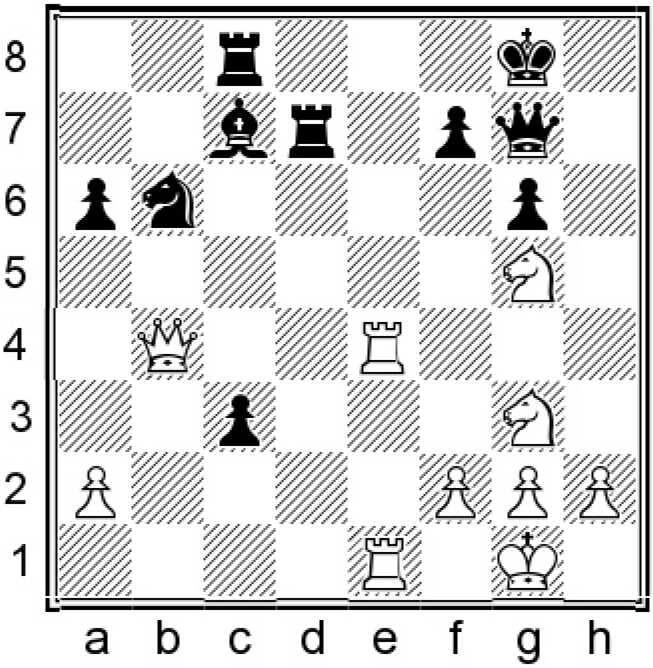
34.♘e4 White now has the edge and can turn the game around. 34...♖fd8 35.♖xd8+ ♖xd8 36.♕c5±

34...♖fd8 35.♖h4+ A completely wrong idea as there is no mate and White simply loses coordination of his forces.

35.♖xd8+ ♖xd8 36.♘e4±

35...♔g8 36.♘g5 ♖d7 37.♖e4 c3 38.♖fe1?

38.♕b3



38...♖dd8! Now Black is winning once again!

39.♘e2 ♘d5 40.♕a4 ♕f6 41.♘f3 ♗b6 42.♖c1 c2 43.h3 ♕b2 44.♕b3 ♕xb3 45.axb3 a5 46.♖c4 ♖xc4

47.bxc4 ♘b4 48.g3 ♗xf2+ 49.♔xf2 ♘d3+ 50.♔e3 ♘xc1 51.♘xc1 ♖d1 52.♘e2 a4 53.♘fd4 c1=Q+ 54.♘xc1 ♖xc1 0-1

After this win Steinitz leads 6 : 4. He needs just one draw to won the match.

The Old Rivals

The fourth World Chess Championship was held in La Habana between January 1 and February 28, 1892. The defending Champion Wilhelm Steinitz narrowly defeated the challenger Mikhail Chigorin.

This was Steinitz' fourth successive World Championship match victory, and his second against Chigorin. The match was to last twenty games, while the first player to score 10 1/2 points or win ten games would be the Champion. In the event of a 10 : 10 tie after 20 games the players would continue until one of them had won ten games. If the match reached a score of nine wins each, it would end in a draw and the defending Champion Steinitz would retain the title.

After twenty games the score was 10 : 10 with each player having eight wins, so the players continued until one had won ten games. Game 21 was drawn, but Steinitz won games 22 and 23 to win the match and retain the title.

C34
Chigorin, Mikhail - Steinitz, Wilhelm
La Habana (wch-m/23), 1892

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.e5 ♘h5 True to his style Steinitz finds yet another strange line to defend.

5.♗e2 g6 6.d4 ♗g7 The plan is simple but highly original as Black managed to defend the pawn and to bring the king to safety.

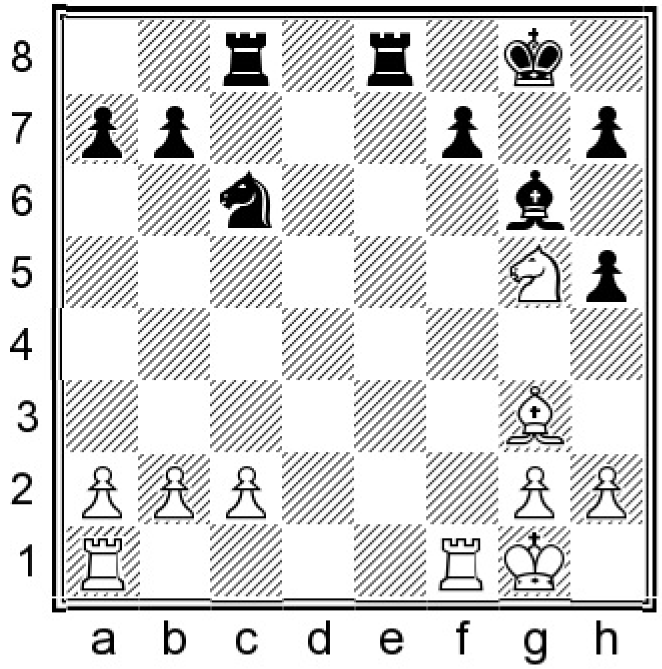
7.O-O d6 8.♘c3 O-O 9.♘e1 White cannot find how to develop but now the endgame is good for Black.

9...dxe5 10.♗xh5 gxh5 11.dxe5 ♕xd1 12.♘xd1 ♘c6 13.♗xf4 ♗f5

13...♘xe5 14.♘e3 c6 is also better for Black.

14.♘e3 ♗e4 15.♘f3 ♖fe8 16.♘g5 ♗g6 Black has lost some time moving his bishop and now White has got significant counterplay.

17.♘d5 ♗xe5 18.♘xc7 ♗xc7 19.♗xc7 ♖ac8 20.♗g3



20...♘d4!

20...♗xc2 21.♘xf7=

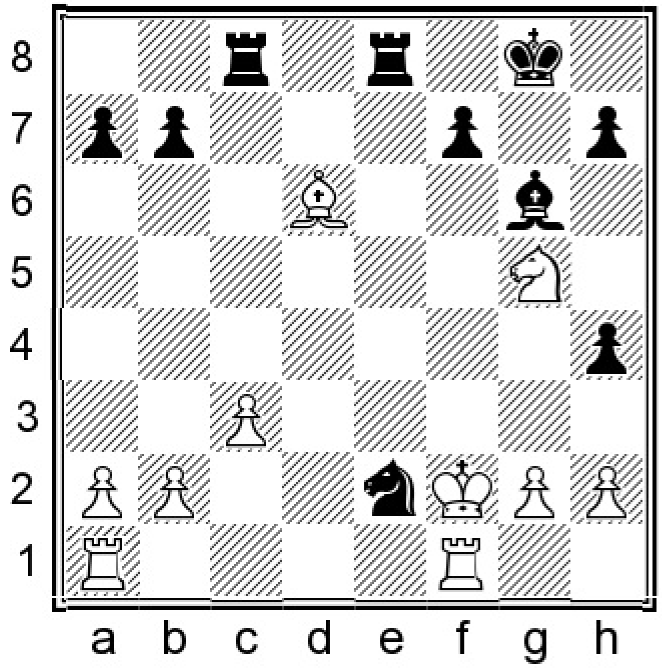
21.c3 ♘e2+ 22.♔f2

22.♔h1 ♘xg3+ 23.hxg3 ♖e2-+

22...h4?

22...♘xg3 23.hxg3 ♖e5 Probably Black missed the idea 24.♘f3 ♖b5∓

23.♗d6



23...♘d4?? It is hard to explain this move. There is no compensation at all.

23...♖cd8 24.♖fd1 ♗h5 25.♘f3±

24.cxd4 ♖c2+ 25.♔g1 ♖ee2 26.♖ae1

26.♔h1 ♖xg2 27.♖g1 ♖ge2 28.♘f3+- also works.

26...♖xg2+ 27.♔h1 ♔g7

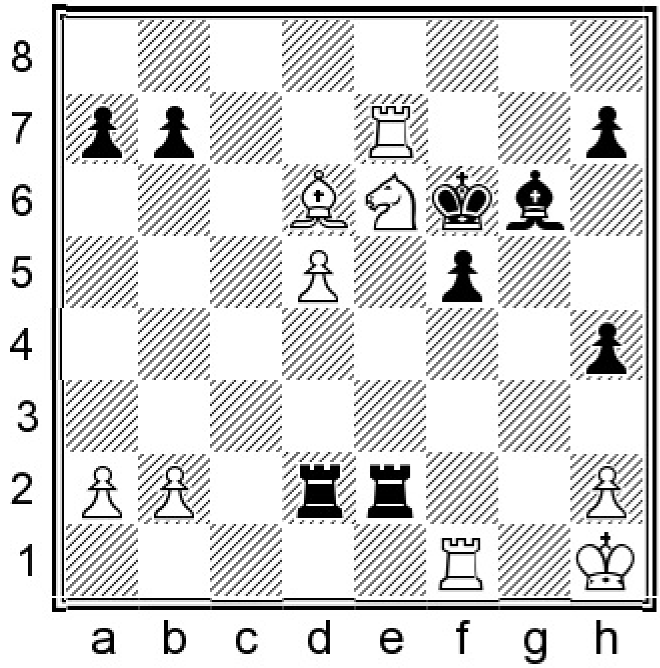
27...♖xg5 28.♖e8+ ♔g7 29.♗f8+ ♔g8 30.♗h6#

28.♖e8 White is totally winning now!

28...f5 29.♘e6+

29.♖e7+ ♔g8 30.♘e6+-

29...♔f6 30.♖e7 ♖ge2 31.d5 ♖cd2



32.♗b4?? Disaster strikes for Chigorin. Instead of winning and bringing the match level he is now mated. The bishop must guard the h2-pawn.

32.♖xb7+-

32...♖xh2+ 0-1

Mikhail Chigorin vs Wilhelm Steinitz

LA HABANA 1892
The fourth World Chess Championship Match

The match was to last twenty games; the first player to score 10½ points or win ten games would be the champion. In the event of a 10 : 10 tie after 20 games the players would continue until one of them had won ten games. If it reached a score of nine wins each, the match would end in a draw and the defending champion Steinitz would retain the title. After twenty games the score was 10 : 10 with each player having eight wins, so the players continued until one had won ten games. Game 21 was drawn, but Steinitz won games 22 and 23 to win the match and retain the title.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		Wins
Mikhail CHIGORIN	1	½	½	0	½	0	1	1	½	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	½	0	0	10½	8
Wilhelm STEINITZ	0	½	½	1	½	1	0	0	½	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	½	1	1	12½	10

FROM THE CHESS INFORMANT ARCHIVES

By Douglas Griffin

FIVE MOST MEMORABLE GAMES

To mark the publication of the 150th volume, I was asked to make a personal selection of the five most memorable games to have appeared in Chess Informant. To narrow down dozens, if not hundreds, of possible candidates to such a small number was never going to be easy. Nevertheless, it is an honour and a privilege to be able to publish such a selection, and I hope that each of the five games that appear below will be of interest to the reader. I reiterate; this is a personal selection, and is strongly influenced by own experience during the period when I was an active chessplayer. I have consciously avoided choosing the most famous games by the most famous players – these are probably everyone's favourites, and I wanted to present something original.

Ultimately the games I chose were one from my very first volume of the publication, three with which I had a personal connection, and one that I discovered when I began to collect back-issues after "retiring" from over-the-board play.

Game 1

One of my first chessbooks was a collection of the games of Anatoly Karpov, which my parents bought me in 1978, when I was eleven years old. I had still not played in a chess tournament, and my curiosity was stirred by the mysterious publication referred to in the bibliography – Chess Informant. When I began to play in tournaments, I heard more about this, and I can still recall being at the Glasgow weekend congress in September 1980, and seeing some of the stronger players with copies of the latest volume, which had just arrived from what was then Jugoslavija. The next month I took first place in a weekend tournament in Perth, and as a present, my parents bought me my own copy of volume 29. I have always taken good care of my books and magazines, but this one is the most well-worn in my entire library – it was read cover-to-cover, many times over. The first game I would like to present is from its opening pages; it made a huge impression on me.

It was won by England's Tony Miles, who was familiar to me from his appearances in the BBC TV series *The Master Game*, which was instrumental in developing my interest in chess. His opponent, the super-solid Swede Ulf Andersson, I knew as the winner of more than one event in Hastings; many of his games had appeared in the magazines *Chess* and *British Chess Magazine*.

This game is annotated by Tony Miles in *Chess Informant* (vol. 29/8). Miles also annotated it for his regular column in the magazine *The New Statesman*; these notes were reproduced in the posthumous biography *Tony Miles* (edited by G. Lawton and published by Batsford in 2003).

A04
Miles, Anthony (2545) - Andersson, Ulf (2590)
Las Palmas 29/8, 1980

1.g3 This was a favourite move of Miles at that time.

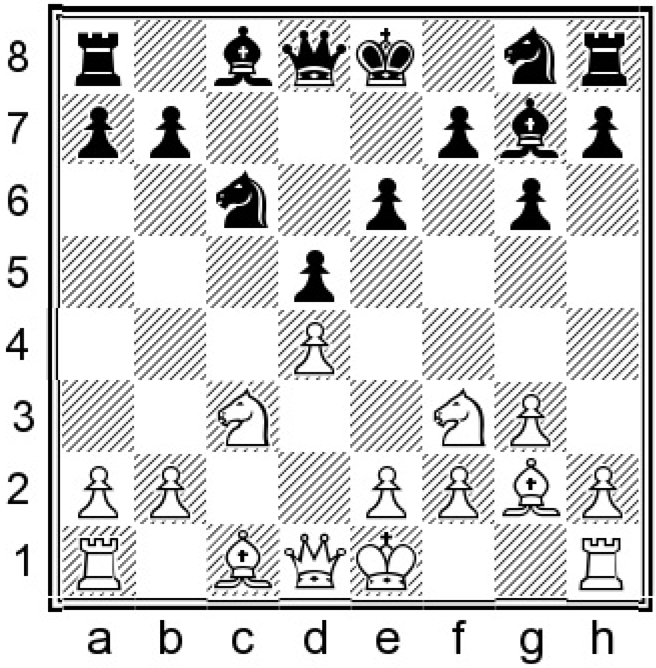
1...c5

A few weeks earlier, at the international tournament in London, the English grandmaster had scored a convincing victory over Andersson; the continuation of that game (which was played, incidentally, on Miles' 25th birthday!) was 1...g6 2.d4 d5 3.♗g2 ♗g7 4.♘f3 c6 5.c4 ♘f6 6.cxd5 cxd5 7.♘e5 O-O 8.♘c3 e6 9.♗g5 Miles,Anthony 2545 - Andersson,Ulf 2590, London 1980, etc. (see *Chess Informant* (vol. 29/555), where it also appears with annotations by Miles)

2.♗g2 ♘c6 3.♘f3 g6 4.c3 ♗g7 5.d4 cxd4 Reaching the same structure as in their game from London. However, the position differs in that here Black's queen's knight has been developed earlier.

6.cxd4 d5 7.♘c3 e6

On 7...♘f6 White continues 8.♘e5!



8.♗f4! Precise play, much stronger than the routine 8.0-0. White plans an immediate Qd2 and Bh6, before Black has time to carry out the manoeuvre ...Nge7-f5.

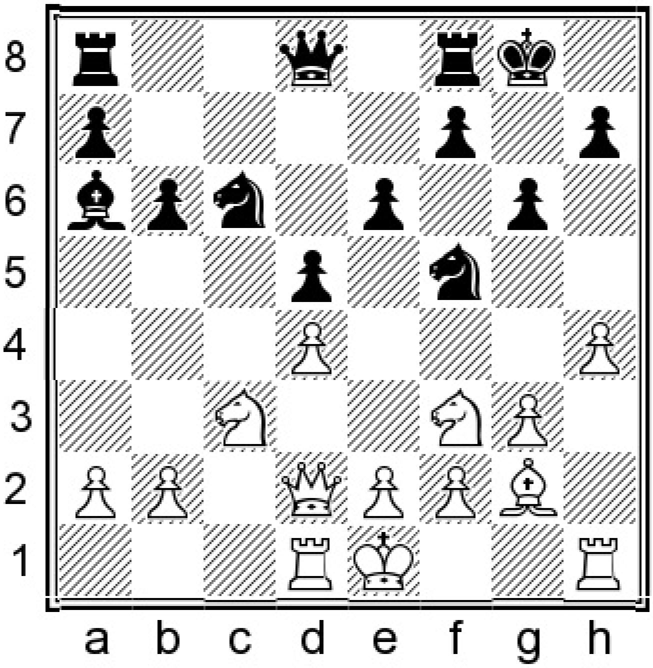
8...♘ge7 9.♕d2 O-O

After 9...♘f5 White replies 10.♘b5 O-O 11.g4, for instance: 11...♘fe7 12.h3 ♗d7 13.O-O a6 14.♘c3

♖c8 15.♖fc1 ♘a7 16.a4 ♘ac6 17.♖ab1 ♘a5 18.b3 ♖e8 19.♗d6, retaining a slight pull (Miles,Anthony 2590 - Sosonko,Gennadi 2595, Tilburg 1981).

10.♗h6 ♗xh6 11.♕xh6 ♘f5 12.♕d2 b6 13.♖d1 Here Miles writes, instructively: "A useful semi-waiting move. At first sight it may seem passive, but it isn't. Firstly, if White plays 'naturally' with 0-0 and Rac1, Black will simply oppose on the c-file, rooks will be exchanged and the game will soon be drawn. Consequently I wanted to start operations on the king-side, but first it is necessary to stabilise the centre. The move has several points: first it supports d4 so that ...Qf6 does not come with a tempo, secondly after a later Ne5, ...Ne5, de5 White will have the tricks Ne4 or e4, and lastly it waits for the bishop to move away from protecting e6."

13...♗a6 14.h4!



14...♘a5?? Miles calls this "a terrible, perhaps even the losing" move, whereby Black surrenders control over the e5-square.

In *Chess Informant*, Miles mentions a number of alternatives, such as 14...f6!? with only a slight advantage for White.

15.g4! ♘d6

Andersson perhaps counted on playing 15...♘c4, but after 16.♕d3 he is forced into the very suspicious-looking continuation 16...♘ce3 (otherwise 17.b3) 17.♕xa6 ♘xg2+ 18.♔f1 ♘fxh4, etc.

16.h5 ♕f6 17.hxg6 The correct time for the exchange. Black has an unpleasant decision to make.

17...fxg6

If 17...hxg6, then 18.g5 ♕g7 (on 18...♕e7 19.♕f4 wins by force - 19...♔g7 20.♕e5+ f6 21.gxf6+ ♖xf6 22.♘xd5!) 19.♕f4 ♖fd8 20.♘e5 followed by Ng4, etc.

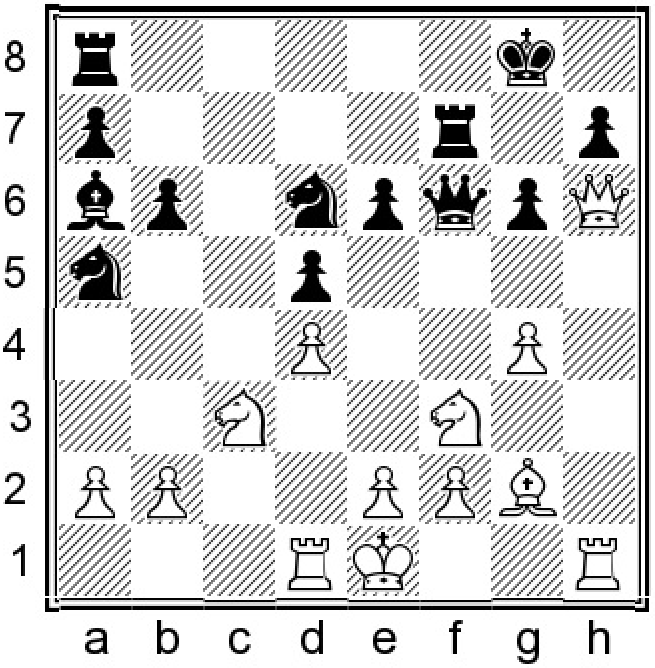
18.♕h6 ♖f7

Miles points out the problems with the alternative ways to defend h7:

a) 18...♕g7 19.♕xg7+ ♔xg7 20.♘g5.

b) 18...♕f7 19.♕h4! and Ng5

c) 18...♕e7 19.♘e5 intending 20.Ng6 or 20.Nd5



19.g5! ♕g7

19...♕f5 runs into 20.♗h3, while 19...♕f4 is no better - first 20.♖h4 ♕f5 and then 21.♗h3; While if 19...♕e7 then 20.♘e5 followed by 21.Nd5 wins.

20.♘e5 ♕xh6

20...♖b7 Miles indicates 21.e4, (while 21.♘xd5!? could also be considered.)

Meanwhile 20...♖ff8 runs into 21.♘xd5 ♕xh6 (21...exd5 22.♗xd5+ ♔h8 23.♘xg6+) 22.♘e7+

21.♖xh6 ♖ff8

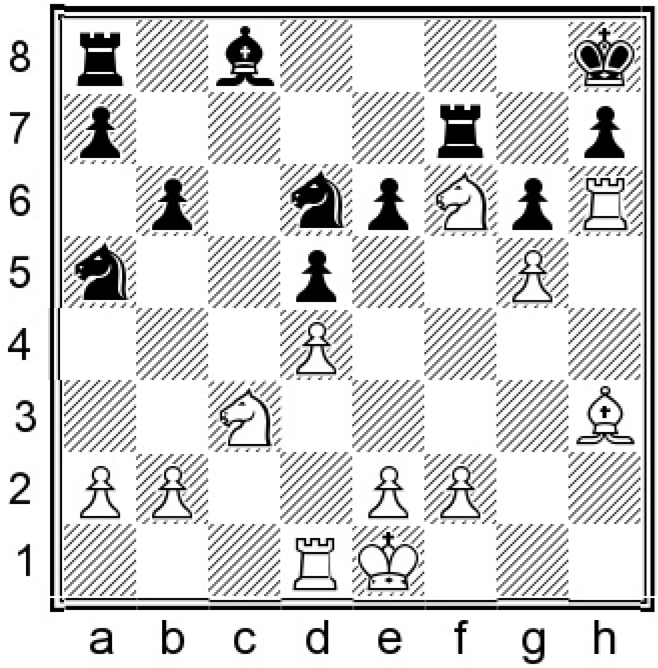
Allowing the knight to reach f6 with gain of tempo, but there is little choice: if 21...♖b7, Miles indicates 22.e4 or 22.Nd5, but White could also continue 22.b4 ♘ac4 (22...♖c8 23.♘xd5) 23.b5 ♘xb5 24.♘xd5, etc.

22.♘d7 ♖f7 23.♘f6+ ♔h8 24.♗h3! Attacking e6 (which cannot be defended by 24...Re7 25.Be6!) and countering Black's intended ...Nf5.

24...♗c8

White meets 24...♘f5 25.♗xf5 gxf5 with 26.♔d2! ♘c4+ 27.♔c1 ♖c8 (27...♖b8 28.♖dh1 ♖bb7

29.♘h5! followed by Nf4) 28.♖dh1 ♖cc7 29.♘e8!, winning.

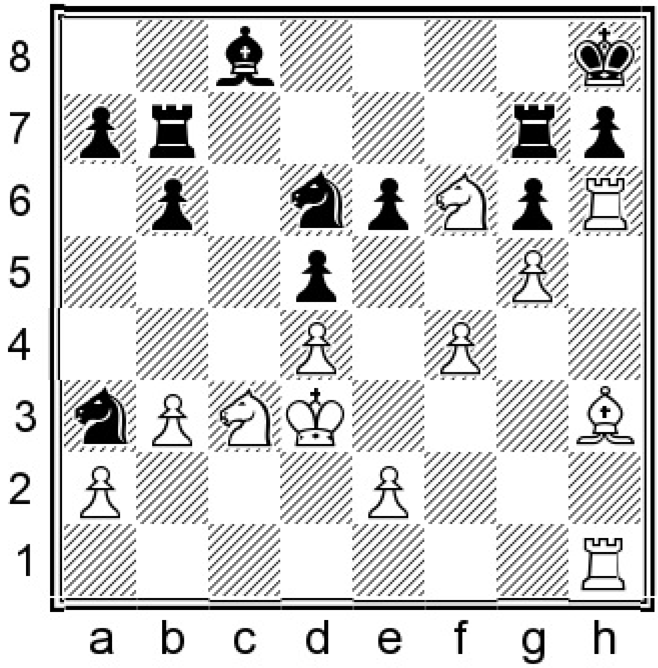


25.♔d2! With the simple plan of doubling rooks on the h-file, followed by Be6 and Rh7, mating.

25...♖g7 26.f4 Defending the g5-pawn against ...Nf7 and cementing White's grip on the dark squares.

26...♖b8 27.♖h1 ♘ac4+ 28.♔d3 (!) One might have expected Kc1, but Miles has other plans for his king.

28...♖bb7 29.b3 ♘a3



30.e4! The final assault.

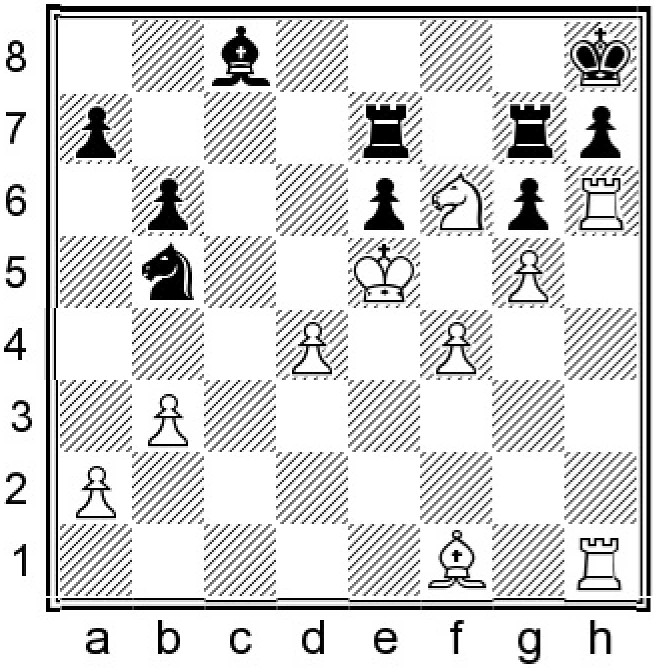
30...dxe4+ 31.♘cxe4 ♘xe4 32.♔xe4 ♘b5

Or 32...♖bc7 33.♔e5! ♗b7 34.♖h2 ♖c1 35.♗f5! ♖e1+ 36.♗e4!, and wins.

33.♔e5! Beautiful. From here the king stops ...Nd6.

33...♖be7 34.d5 was threatened.

34.♗f1!



Gaining a tempo en route to d3. Black resigned. **1-0**

A remarkable win against one of the finest positional players of the late twentieth century.

TONY
MILES
Phillips & Drew
Greater London Council
ERSSON
PHILLIPS & DREW
KINGS
CHESS TOURNAMENT
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Miles and Andersson in play a couple of months earlier, at the London (Phillips & Drew) International, April 1980. (Photo via britishchessnews.com.)

Game 2

In early 1981, aged 14, I was invited to join some other Scottish juniors in a training programme run by the master Danny Kopec, a U.S. citizen resident in Edinburgh, where he was studying for a Ph.D in Artificial Intelligence. A small group of us would meet once a month at Edinburgh University, where we would solve training positions and discuss famous games from the past. Back issues of *Chess Informant* naturally played a key role in developing the "chess culture" of the trainees. We would also review the latest games from the international chess press, including *Shakhmatnyi Byulleten*' and *64* – Danny could understand enough Russian to make these annotations accessible to us.

(Incidentally, I myself knew enough to be able to read the bare scores of the games, but the prose annotations were still something of a mystery to me. I think it was in these sessions that the seeds of my future work in chess translation were sown.) At that time, it was already clear that Garry Kasparov was likely to be the next challenger to World Champion Anatoly Karpov, but another rising star was Lev Psakhis, who won back-to-back Soviet Championship titles in 1980 and 1981 (the latter, incidentally, shared with Kasparov).

In the summer of 1984, international chess came to Scotland. That year our national chess federation celebrated its centenary, and as part of the programme of events marking the occasion, a 9-round all-play-all tournament was organised in the town of Troon – a regular venue for Scottish championships at that time. I was recently returned from a junior international event in Danmark and brimming with enthusiasm; I still recall the sense of excitement travelling to Ayrshire with my father on the opening day of the event – none other than Lev Psakhis himself would be there. Psakhis was a prolific contributor to *Chess Informant* and I was a great admirer of his style of play; indeed, a large number of his games were strong candidates for inclusion in this article. I have necessarily limited my choice to just one – from the final round of that same event in Troon; in it Psakhis faced the Scottish International Master Craig Pritchett. I had a birds-eye view of the play as it unfolded, as I was operating the demonstration board on the stage above the players!

This game is annotated by Lev Psakhis & Oleg Stetsko in *Chess Informant* (vol. 38/319). It was also annotated by Psakhis in his report on the tournament in Troon, published in *64* (No. 17, 1984), and again, in more detail, in his work *Shakhmatnaya taktika dlya sovershenstvuyushikhsya*, published in 2014. The notes here are based on these sources.

B82
Psakhis, Lev (2535) - Pritchett, Craig (2395)
Troon 38/319, 1984

Lev Psakhis in a characteristic pose, in play at the 50th USSR Championship in Moscow, April 1983 (Photo: D. Donskoi, Novosti Press.)

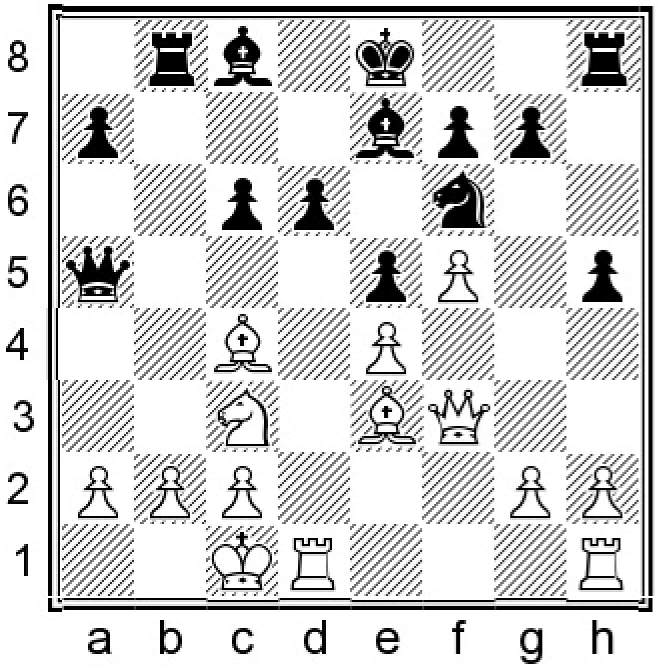
1.e4 c5 Psakhis writes in *64* that in view of the short duration of the tournament, he had resolved to begin each game solidly, with 1.c4, but now, with first place already secured, he could allow himself to open the game more sharply. However, he describes his 'consternation' when the reply 1...c5 appeared on the board - "I had forgotten that my opponent is the author of a weighty monograph on the Scheveningen Variation".

2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 e6 6.f4 ♘c6 7.♗e3 ♗e7 8.♕f3 e5 9.♘xc6 bxc6 10.f5

Since at least the time of the game Huebner,Robert 2590 - Petrosian, Tigran V 2640 (7th match-game, Candidates' Quarter-final, Sevilla 1971) - a game which, incidentally, features in Pritchett's book - it had been known that 10.fxe5 dxe5 11.♗c4 O-O 12.h3 (12.O-O ♘g4!) 12...♗e6! is an effective equalising continuation for Black (see *Chess Informant* vol. 11/365).

10...♕a5 11.O-O-O ♖b8 12.♗c4 h5!?

Previously, the sharp 12...d5?! and 12...O-O had been tried here. The idea in the text had been introduced by Lev Polugaevsky in a game against Lukovnikov from the RSFSR Spartakiad the year before. The idea is clear - he at least temporarily holds up White's pawn offensive on the king's flank. But the question of where he will put his king remains unresolved.



13.♗b3

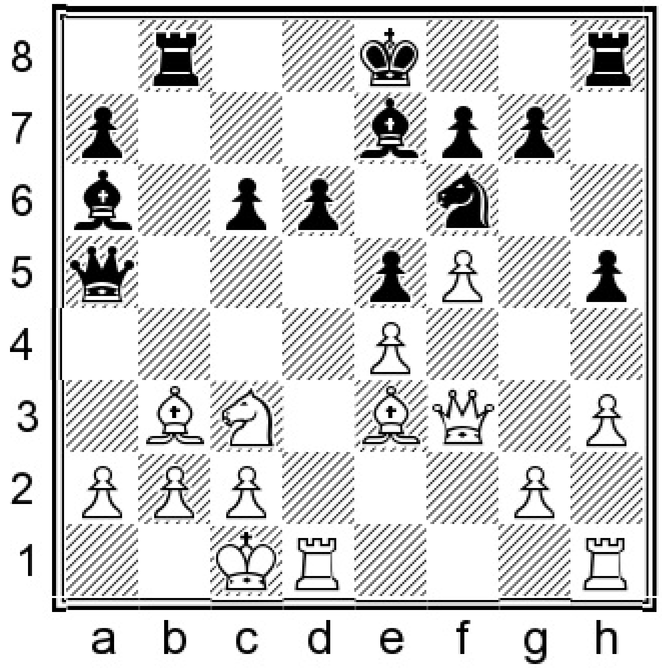
In his later notes, Psakhis suggests the alternative 13.♗g5!? ♗a6 14.♗xa6 ♕xa6 and now 15.♖he1 (rather than 15.♗xf6, which occurred in the game Yakovich,Yuri - Melnikov,A (USSR 1984) - *Chess Informant* (vol. 39/291)), "with good chances of a slight advantage".)

13...♗a6 With the obvious idea of ...c5-c4.

14.h3!

Lukovnikov,Alexander - Polugaevsky,Lev 2625, Krasnodar 1983 had instead continued 14.♔b1?!, but after 14...c5 15.♗c1 c4 16.♗a4+ ♔f8 17.♗c6 ♕c5 18.♗d5 ♗d8! 19.h3 h4 20.g4 hxg3 21.♕xg3 ♗a5 Black's already had dangerous counter-play.

In his annotations to that game Polugaevsky indicates instead the slower continuation 14.g3, guaranteeing the creation of a mobile pawn front after h3 and g4, etc. A few months after the Psakhis - Pritchett game, I was able to make use of my experience in Troon: this position appeared on the board in the game Per Thoren - Douglas Griffin from the final round of the Swedish Junior International, (Hallsberg 1984/85). There White indeed preferred the alternative 14.g3, which was new to me at the time. However, I was able to find a strong response: after 14...c5 15.h3 c4 16.♗a4+ ♔f8 17.g4 White's king-side pawn roller was in motion, but Black has time to continue 17...♕b4 18.g5 ♕xb2+ 19.♔d2 and now 19...♗d8! (again this plan; here it is forced, but more than sufficient) 20.gxf6 ♕xc3+! (with the point that on 21.Kc3 Ba5 White is mated). After 21.♔e2 ♗xf6 22.♖xd6 ♕a5! (defending the black bishop at a6, attacking the white one at a4, and threatening a discovered check on the white king) Black soon won. Psakhis's direct plan represents the critical test of Black's play.



14...h4 15.g4 hxg3

The blockading attempt 15...♘h7 runs into 16.f6! ♘xf6 (16...gxf6 17.♕f2! ♘f8 18.♖xd6!) 17.g5 ♖xb3 18.axb3! (18.gxf6?! ♖xb2!) 18...♘d7 19.g6, with initiative.

16.♕xg3 ♖h7 17.h4 Intending the march of the pawn to h6, but this takes time.

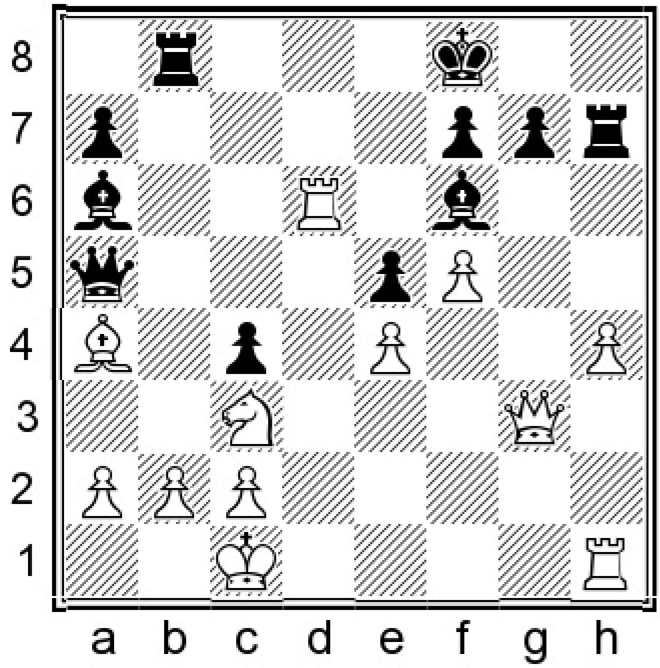
Psakhis later suggested as "more cunning" the continuation 17.♖hg1, with the point that on 17...c5 there follows 18.♗g5 and now on 18...c4?, 19.♗a4+ ♔f8 20.♖xd6! ♗xd6? 21.♗xf6 gxf6 22.♘d5!

17...c5 18.♗g5

Psakhis originally approved of this move. However, subsequently he considered that White should instead simply continue his plan with 18.h5 He had seen the variation 18...c4 19.♗a4+ ♔f8 (19...♔d8 20.h6 ♕b4 21.b3!) 20.h6 ♕b4 21.hxg7+ ♔g8 and now 22.Rh7? fails to 22....Qb2 23.Kd2 Qc3!; he can perhaps be forgiven for missing the winning move 22.♗b5!! in his calculations at the board.

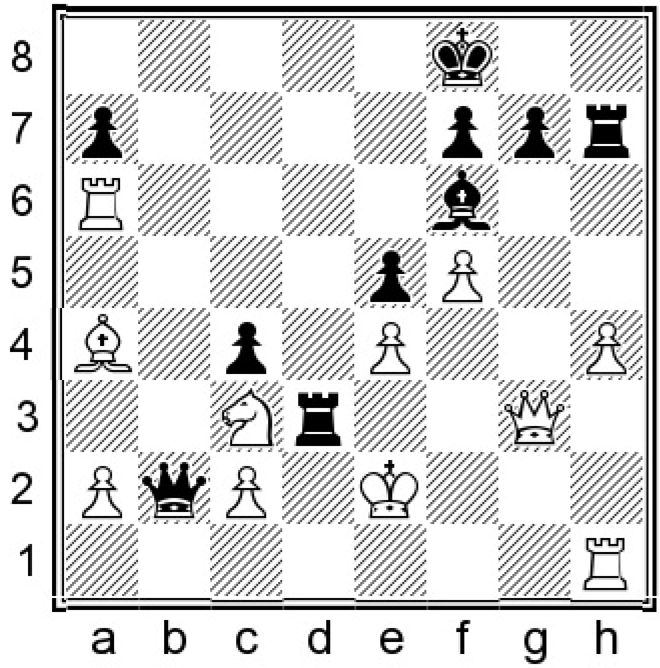
In his later notes, Psakhis also points out that on 18.h5, the attempt 18...♕b4 is refuted by 19.h6! c4 20.a3 ♕b7 21.♗a4+ ♔d8 22.b4 cxb3 23.♕xe5 However, the move in the text is also strong.

18...c4 19.♗a4+ ♔f8 20.♗xf6 ♗xf6 21.♖xd6 Thus, White has won a pawn. However, the black pieces now become very active.



21...♗e7!

"Instead of this, tempting appears 21...♕b4 But my opponent, mainly by intuition, sensed what this would have led to: 22.♖xa6 ♕xb2+ 23.♔d2 ♖d8+ 24.♔e2 (24.♘d5? ♕d4+) 24...♖d3!



25.♕e1!! (25.♖b1? ♕xb1 26.cxd3 ♕b2+) 25...♖xc3 26.♕b1! ♕xb1 27.♖xb1 g5 (27...♖xh4 28.♖b8+ ♔e7 29.♖e8#) 28.♖xf6 ♖xh4 29.♖b7, and White wins."

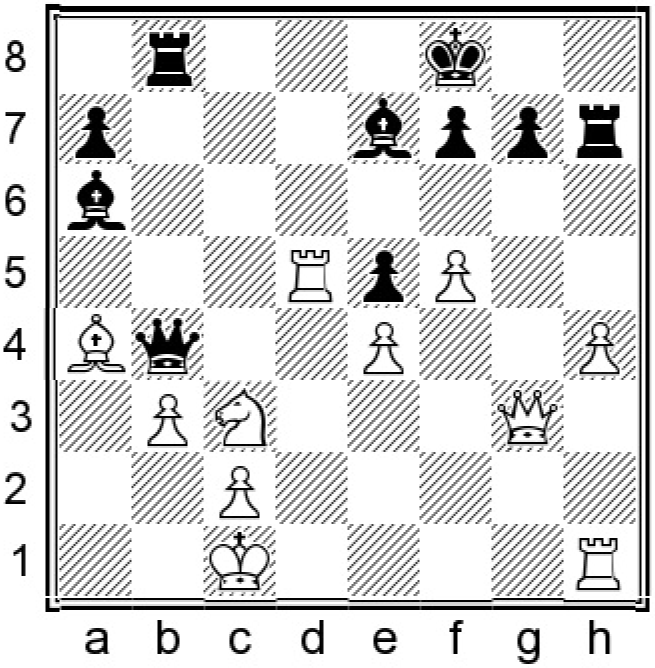
22.♖d5

Later, Psakhis also criticised this move, indicating instead 22.♖d7 ♕b4 23.b3, etc., safely retaining the extra pawn.

22...♕b4 23.b3 An extremely sharp situation. As Psakhis later commented, it is not clear who is attacking whom!

In his later analysis he suggests that objectively the course here was to admit his inaccuracy on the previous move and continue 23.♖d7!? ♕xb2+ 24.♔d2 ♗b4 25.♕xe5 etc., although he also suggests that to make such a move was in practice simply not possible!

23...cxb3 24.axb3



24...♖c8! 25.♔b2

Played without any thought, but in his later notes Psakhis indicates the additional possibility of 25.♖h3!?

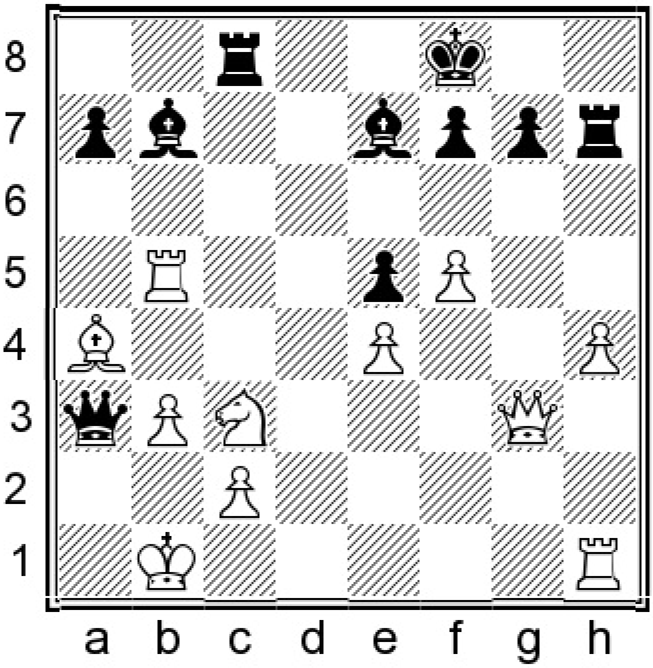
25...♗b7!

"Once again an excellent move! 25...♕a3+ 26.♔b1 ♗b4 will not do in view of 27.♖hd1! ♗xc3 28.♖d8+ ♖xd8 29.♖xd8+ ♔e7 30.♖e8+ and 31.Qc3."

26.♖b5 ♕a3+

"I did not fear the variation 26...♕d4 27.♖xb7! ♖xc3 28.♕xc3 ♗a3+ 29.♔xa3 ♕xc3 30.♖d1 - White has a decisive attack."

27.♔b1



27...♗c6! Psakhis later wrote of this move: "My opponent conducts the game brilliantly, not falling into a single one of the numerous traps".

In *64*, he writes that he had in the main considered the alternative 27...♗b4, on which he had prepared 28.♖xe5! ♗d6 (28...♗xc3 29.♕xc3! f6 (forced) 30.♕xc8+ ♗xc8 31.♖e8+ ♔f7 32.♖xc8, winning.) 29.♖d1 ♗xe5 30.♕xe5, when Black stands badly.

28.♖a5 ♕b4!

"Another excellent move", with which Black avoids the variations arising from 28...♗b4 29.♖xa7 ♗e8 30.♗d7!!, etc.

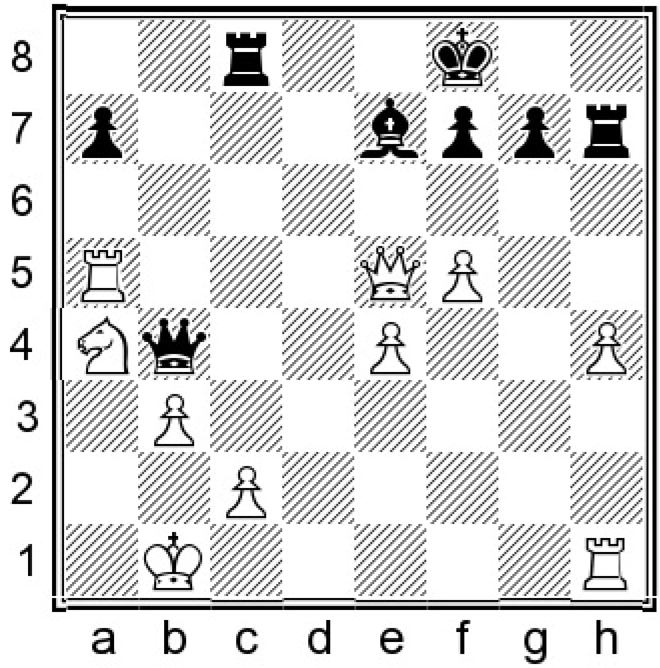
29.♕xe5!?

Psakhis writes that he spent a long time considering this move. Later, he wrote that it was frankly "incredibly difficult" to decide between the move in the text and 29.♖xa7!? In *64*, he gives the variation 29...♗c5 (29...♗xe4!?) 30.♖xf7+ (30.♖a6 ♗b7) 30...♔xf7 31.♕g6+ ♔f8 32.♕xh7 ♕xc3 33.♕h8+ (Later, he pointed out the additional variation 33.f6! gxf6 34.♖f1, but considers that after 34...♗xa4 35.♕h8+ (35.♖xf6+ ♔e8 36.♕g8+ ♔d7 37.♕d5+ ♔e8, etc.) 35...♔e7 36.♕xc8 ♗d7 37.♕h8 the play is unclear, but Black is probably out of serious danger.) 33...♔f7 34.♕xc8 ♗d4 35.♕e6+ ♔f8, when White is forced to give perpetual check.

29...♗xa4!

On 29...♗d6 White intended to continue 30.♘d5!, with the tactical point 30...♗xe5 (30...♗xd5 31.♕xd5 ♖xh4 32.♖d1!) 31.♘xb4 ♗xe4 32.♖e1 ♗xc2+ 33.♘xc2 ♗c3 34.♖c5! and White wins.

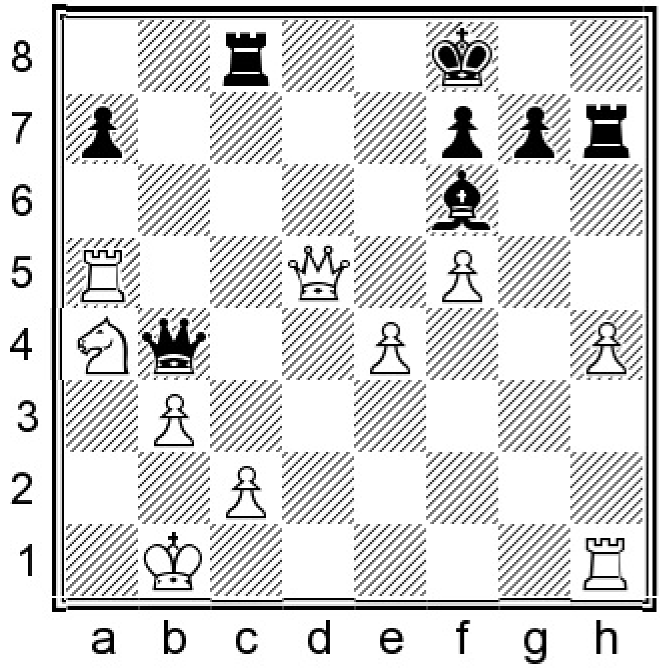
30.♘xa4



30...♗f6? "At this point we both had less than 3 minutes remaining on the clocks, and the time for mistakes had come, unfortunately mutual ones" - Psakhis later wrote. At the time he did not criticise the move in the text.

However, later he pointed out the possibility 30...♖xh4!, when after 31.♖xh4 ♕e1+ 32.♔a2 Black can force a draw with (32.♔b2?! ♕xh4 is "too risky, and all the same does not bring White real dividends": 33.♕d5 ♕f6+ 34.♔b1 ♖d8 35.♕e5 ♖d1+ 36.♔a2 ♕xe5 37.♖xe5 ♗f6 38.♘b2 ♖d4 39.♖a5 ♖xe4 40.♖xa7 ♖e5, with counter-play.) 32...♖xc2+ 33.♘b2 ♖xb2+! 34.♔xb2 ♕d2+, etc.

31.♕d5



31...♖xh4!

After all these years I can still remember my excitement when this move appeared on the board. It seemed clear that my compatriot was very much still in the game. Obviously, the rook cannot be captured - after 32.Rh4?? Qe1 Black mates.

32.♖c1

Psakhis later wrote that the move in the text is not bad (indeed, in his notes in *64* he attaches an exclamation mark to it), but it is in fact not the best in the position! He indicates instead 32.e5! At the time he had rejected this on account of the possibility His main line runs: 32...♖xh1+ (32...♗xe5, when after 33.♖xa7 (However, he subsequently found the additional possibility 33.♖d1!) 33...♖xh1+ 34.♕xh1 ♔g8 White has nothing better than to force perpetual check after 35.♖a8 ♖xa8 36.♕xa8+ ♔h7 37.♕h1+, etc.) 33.♕xh1 ♕xa5 34.exf6 ♔g8 35.♕g2! (defending the c2-square, and therefore stronger than 35. Qg1) 35...g6 36.fxg6 ♕f5! 37.g7, etc., when he considers that Black is ultimately faced with insoluble problems. However, he notes that to calculate the variations resulting from 32.e5 with so little time remaining was an impossible task.

32...♕xe4

After the "more accurate" 32...♖xe4 33.♖xa7 ♖e7 Psakhis later considered that the insecure position of the white king would have guaranteed Black easy equality. After the move in the text a sharp endgame results.

33.♕xe4 ♖xe4 34.♖xa7 ♖ce8 35.c4! "Passed pawns must be pushed!".

35...♗g5 36.♖h1 ♔g8 37.c5 ♖b8

On 37...♖b4 White continues 38.♔c2, when after 38...♖f4 39.♘b6 ♖xf5 40.b4 his pawns are clearly quicker than Blacks.

38.♘b6

The direct 38.c6 ♖e3 (38...♖xb3+?! 39.♔c2) 39.c7 ♖c8 40.♖d1 ♖xb3+ 41.♔a2 was perhaps preferable, but again this was a difficult decision to take with one's flag hanging.

38...♖e3?!

Evidently correct was 38...♗d8!, when Black has very good drawing chances. But as Psakhis notes, "there is no chessplayer who does not go wrong in time trouble"...

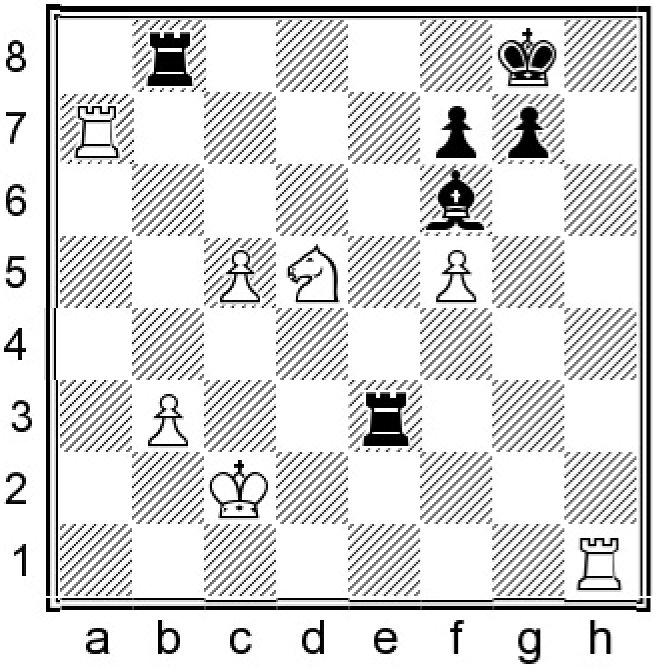
39.♔c2

Simpler is 39.♔a2!, when White should win. 39...♖d3 40.♖h2!

39...♗f6?

Again, 39...♗d8! should have been preferred, although 40.♖a6! leaves White win the advantage. 40...♖f3 41.♖d1 ♖xf5 42.♘d7 ♖c8 43.b4

After the move in the text, Psakhis (in *64*) writes: "I had only 30 seconds remaining. I grabbed the knight, played **40.♘d5**



and quickly said "draw". Peace was immediately concluded.". **1/2-1/2**

Later, "having cooled down a little", Psakhis saw the continuation 40.b4 ♖c3+ (40...♖f3 41.♘d7) 41.♔d2 ♖b3 (41...♖g3 42.♘d7) 42.♘d5 ♖d8 43.♔c2 ♖b2+ 44.♔c1, and Black stands badly. 44...♖xd5 45.♖a8+; 40.♘d5

Even after the text move, play could have continued: 40...♖exb3 41.♘xf6+ gxf6 42.♖a4! with a minimal advantage for White.

"But, it must be said, I (or more accurately, both of us) was satisfied with the game: it was necessary to give a lot of rein to fantasy and to calculate to a still greater extent." - Psakhis, *64*.

In his 2014 annotations he goes on to say that the first 30 moves were played at a very high level, and practically without mistakes.

Witnessing this game first-hand was certainly one of the most memorable events in my time in chess...

Game 3

In the summer of 1986 I travelled to Oesterreich to take part in an international open tournament in the town of Oberwart. There, in the 2nd round, I played a game against the Hungarian master Peter Hardicsay that later appeared, in part, in volume 42 of *Chess Informant* – in the notes to the following game - Griffin,Douglas - Hardicsay,Peter 2345, Oberwart 1986 - 42/(108); I still remember the thrill of seeing my name in print there when standing in the specialist chess store in Glasgow's Hope Street!

Mikhail Podgaets (1947-2009) was a noted trainer and opening theoretician – for many years he was an assistant to Anatoly Karpov and he was largely responsible for the latter's adoption of the Caro-

Kann Defence from 1987 onwards. Podgaets was also a player of enormous talent, as his encounter with Gennadi Zaichik, played in a USSR Championship qualifying event in 1986, showed.

This game is annotated by Mikhail Podgaets in *Chess Informant* (vol. 42/108), and in *Shakhmaty v SSSR* (No. 2, 1987). The notes are based on these sources.

A77
Podgaets, Mikhail (2455) - Zaichik, Gennadi (2490)
USSR 42/108, 1986

Mikhail Podgaets (left), playing blitz with Anatoly Karpov, as Igor Zaitsev looks on. USSR 1987. (Photo: D. Donskoi, Novosti Press.)

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 e6 3.c4 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.♘c3 g6 7.e4 ♗g7 8.♗e2 O-O 9.O-O ♖e8 10.♘d2 ♘bd7 11.a4 ♘e5 12.♕c2

Incidentally, the Griffin - Hardicsay game continued instead 12.♖e1 ♘h5 13.♘f1 f5 14.exf5 ♗xf5 15.♗e3 ♘f6 16.♘g3 ♗d7 (a new move; 16...♘fg4 had been seen in Karpeshov,Oleg - Razuvaev,Yuri 2520, USSR 1983; this had been published in *Chess Informant* vol. 37/(117)) 17.♗g5 ♘f7 18.♗xf6 ♗xf6 19.♗b5! ♗d4 20.♖xe8+ ♕xe8 21.♘ge4 ♔g7 22.♕d2 a6 23.♗xd7 ♕xd7 24.♘e2 ♕f5! 25.♘xd4 ♕xd5 26.♘f5+ ♕xf5 27.♘xd6 ♘xd6 28.♕xd6 ♖f8 29.♖f1 ♖f7 30.b4 cxb4, and a draw was agreed! Griffin,Douglas - Hardicsay,Peter 2345, Oberwart 1986 - 42/(108))

12...♘h5

Podgaets writes: "This original manoeuvre was encountered for the first time in the game Donner,Jan - Ljubojevic,Ljubomir (Nederland 1972) and then in the 3rd game of the match Spassky,Boris 2660 - Fischer,Robert J 2785 (Reykjavik 1972 see 14/146). Black suddenly becomes activate on the king' flank, intending ...Qd8-h4 followed by ...f5?f4. After the exchange on h5 he obtains good play on the light squares and exploits the g-file in his interest; at the same time the doubled h-pawn can fulfill the role of a battering ram."

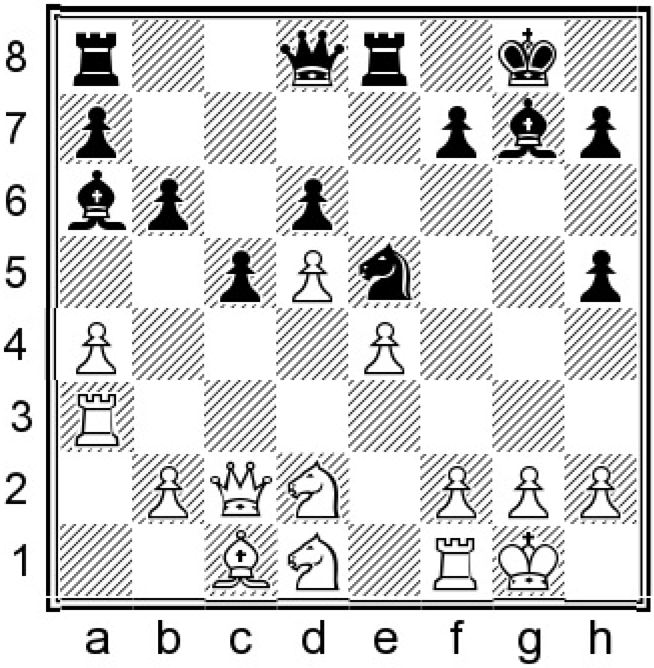
13.♗xh5 gxh5 14.♘d1 A thematic manoeuvre - the knight is aimed at e3, from where it controls the important c4- and f5-squares. At the same time, the 3rd rank is cleared for the possible transfer of the white rook onto the king's flank.

14...b6 An idea introduced in the game Gligoric,Svetozar 2595 - Taimanov, Mark 2595, Leningrad Interzonal 1973.

It was first played in this position in the game Gligoric,Svetozar 2575 - Kavalek,Lubomir 2555 from the 1972 Olympiad in Skopje 14...♕h4 which continued 15.♘e3 ♘g4 (by analogy with the Spassky - Fischer game) 16.♘xg4 hxg4 17.♘c4, etc. (see *Chess Informant*, vol. 14/148)

15.♖a3 ♗a6

Here Taimanov continued instead 15...f5!? 16.exf5 ♗a6, when 17.♘e4! (17.♖e1? ♘c4!) 17...♗xf1 18.♔xf1 led to a very sharp middlegame, Gligoric,Svetozar 2595 - Taimanov,Mark 2595, Leningrad (izt) 1973 see *Chess Informant* vol. 15/128



16.♖e1!? A new move.

In the game Petrosian,Tigran V 2635 - Rashkovsky, Nukhim 2485 (44th USSR Championship, Moscow 1976) the 9th World Champion sacrificed an exchange in his trademark style with 16.♖h3!? (see *Chess Informant* vol. 22/152). Black was undoubtedly prepared for this continuation; Podgaets, however, considers that the unassuming move in the text is in fact more unpleasant for the second player.

16...c4!? Intending to parachute the knight into d3.

16...f5!? could also be considered.

17.♘e3 ♘d3 18.♖f1 ♖c8 19.♘f5!

Much stronger than 19.♘exc4 ♗xc4 20.♘xc4 ♖xe4 21.b3 ♖d4! with an unclear situation.

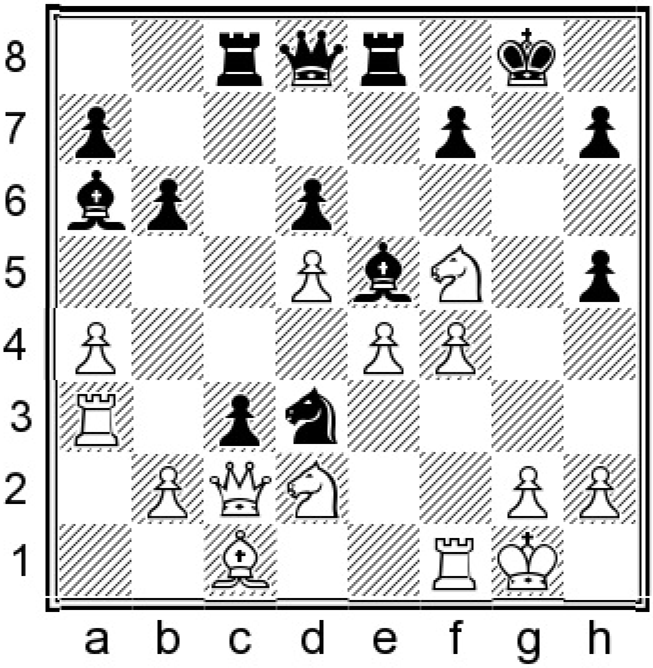
19...♗e5 This turns out badly.

Podgaets later considered that 19...♕f6 should have been preferred.

20.f4! Black had probably considered this move to be impossible. However, White has seen further...

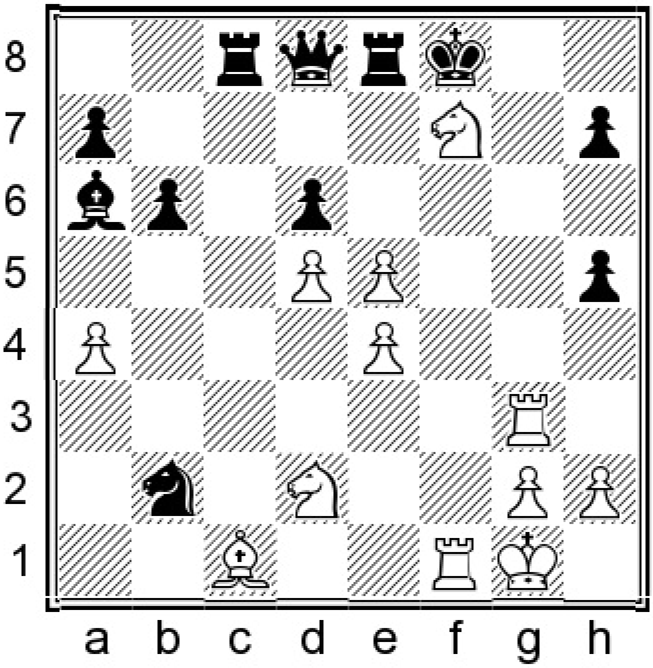
20...c3

After 20...♗xf4 21.♖xf4! ♘xf4 22.♖g3+ ♘g6 23.♘f3 White has a very strong attack. However, this was perhaps a better chance for Black - although the refutation of his move in the text was certainly not easy to foresee...

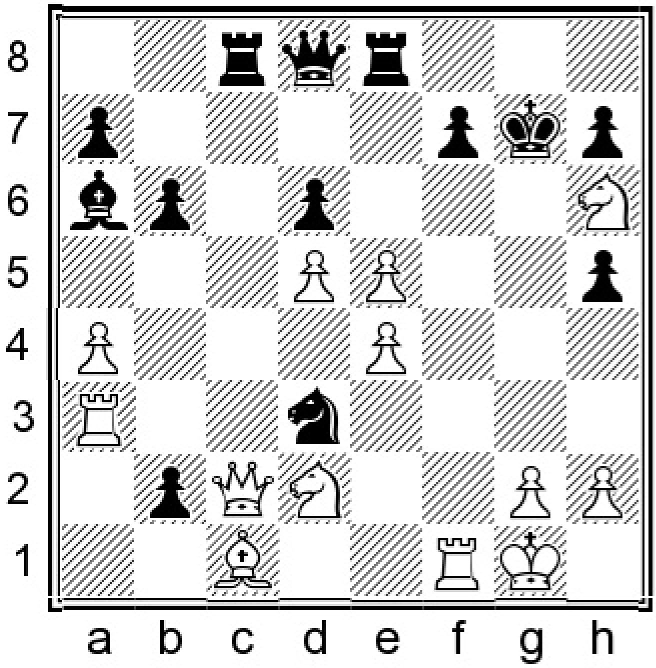


21.fxe5!! cxb2 22.♘h6+ ♔g7

On 22...♔h8 White had prepared a spectacular combination: 23.♕xb2!!, when 23...♘xb2 leads, remarkably, to mate after 24.♘xf7+ ♔g7 25.♖g3+ ♔f8



26.♘h6+! ♗xf1 27.♖g8+ ♔e7 28.♖g7+ ♔f8 29.♖f7#



23.♕xb2!! ♖xc1

Once again 23...♘xb2 leads to mate after 24.♖g3+ ♔xh6 (Or 24...♕g5 25.♖xg5+ ♔xh6 26.♖f6+! ♔xg5 27.♘f3+ ♔g4 28.♖f4#) 25.♘c4+ ♕g5 26.♗xg5+ ♔g7 27.♗e7+ ♔h8 28.♗f6#

24.♘f5+ ♔g8 25.♖xd3! - and Black resigned.

25.♖xd3 After 25...♖xf1+ 26.♘xf1 ♗xd3 there follows 27.exd6 f6 (27...♕g5 is met by 28.h4) 28.♕c3! ♗e2 29.♕g3+ ♗g4 30.h3, etc. A sparkling game!

1-0

Game 4

The following encounter was another that made a huge impression on me, first-hand. In 1989 I was a member of the Scotland team that took part in the European Team Championship in Haifa in Israel. I was a reserve, and only played in three of the nine rounds; on the other hand, I had plenty of opportunities to spectate, and I will never forget the opportunity it gave me to see the likes of Lev Polugaevsky, and other greats of the game who are no longer with us, in action. Among those appearing for the USSR team was Mikhail Gurevich, a player whose approach to the game I particularly admired. In the match against England he produced the following piece of chess art.

This game is annotated by M. N. Gurevich in *Chess Informant* (vol. 48/128), and in *64* (No. 2, 1990). The notes here are based on these sources.

A80
Hodgson, Julian (2535) - Gurevich, Mikhail (2645)
Haifa 48/128, 1989

1.d4 f5 There will be no Trompovsky today! The Dutch Defence was one of Mikhail Gurevich's main weapons against 1.d4. During the 1980s and 90s, together with his colleague Vladimir Malaniuk he was largely responsible for popularising a new system in the Leningrad Dutch, based on the move 7...Qe8 in the main line (after 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.0-0 0-0 6.c4 d6 7.Nc3). Of course, from Hodgson one could expect a different approach from White.

2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.h3!? White intends to place his queen's bishop on f4 and prepares a retreat for it in advance. At the same time, the advance g4 may come into his plans at a later date.

3...g6 4.♗f4 ♗g7 5.e3 d6 6.♘bd2 ♘c6 An important finesse.

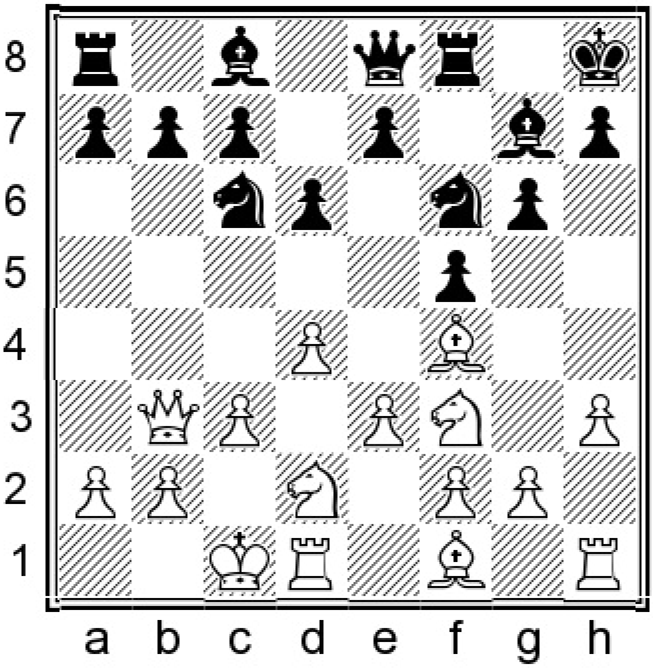
More exact than 6...O-O, when 7.♗c4+ provokes ...d5 or ...e6, neither of which comes into Black's plans. Indeed, 7...e6 allows the possibility of 8.g4!?

7.c3 White is playing analogously to the London System, one of the aims of which is to limit the scope of Black's bishop on g7. However, without giving too much away, in this game he does not succeed in this...

7...O-O 8.♕b3+ ♔h8 9.O-O-O

Now, of course, the move 9.♘g5 is pointless, as Black has the reply 9...e5

9...♕e8



Black is now ready to advance ...e5, when he will potentially gain further time with ...Be6. White's opening set-up does not inspire confidence, but Hodgson is in his element in the original middlegame situation that results.

10.d5 Crossing Black's plans, but the diagonal of the g7-bishop is now opened. Keep an eye on this piece!

10...♘a5 An ambitious move, involving the sacrifice of a piece, which, admittedly, White can hardly accept. The knight had convenient retreat squares at d8 or even b8.

11.♕a3 b6 12.♘b3

On 12.b4 Black planned 12...♘xd5 13.bxa5 ♘xc3, etc. However, after the move in the text Black immediately exploits the removal of control over e4 to probe White's sensitive f2-square.

If White instead defends d5 with 12.c4, Black breaks with 12...e6

12...♘e4

12...♘xb3+ 13.♕xb3 ♘e4 14.♕c2! makes less sense for Black.

13.♗g3 An ugly move, but there is no choice.

13...♘xg3 Thus, the opposite number of the g7-bishop disappears from the board...

14.fxg3 e6!?

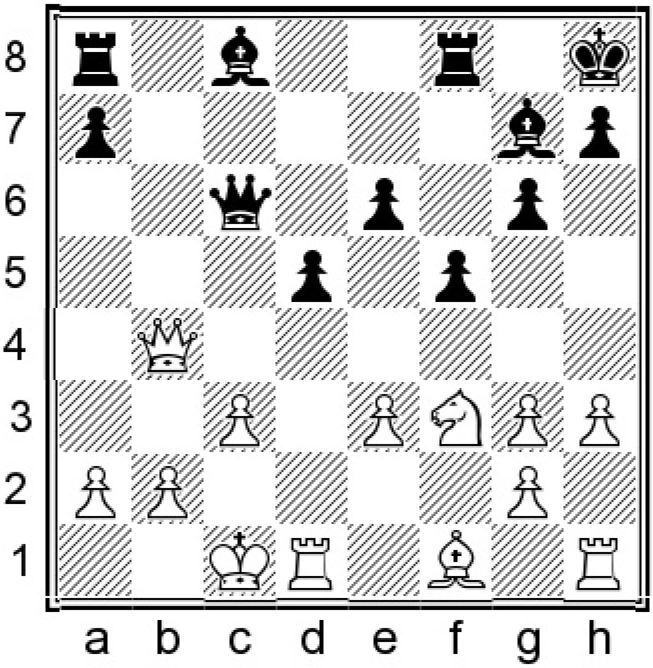
Black rejected 14...♘xb3+ 15.♕xb3 e6 in view of the possibility 16.♗b5 followed by Bc6. Again, he plays more ambitiously - offering a pawn for the sake of opening the b-file.

15.♘xa5 bxa5 16.♕xa5 c6! "The square d5 is key!" - Mikhail Gurevich.

17.dxc6

17.dxe6 ♗xe6 18.♖xd6 is very strongly met by 18...♗d5!

17...♕xc6 18.♕b4 d5



19.h4! ♗d7 Calmly completing development.

White seeks counter-play against the black king, and at the same time he sets a clever trap. On the "standard" reply 19...h6? (so as to meet 20.h5 with 20...g5), White wins by 20.♘e5!, and if 20...♕e8

21.♗b5

20.♘d4

On 20.h5 Black replies 20...♖ab8 21.♕a3 g5 when 22.♘xg5 allows 22...♗h6

20...♕c8

On 20...♕c7, the reply 21.♕e7 is somewhat awkward.

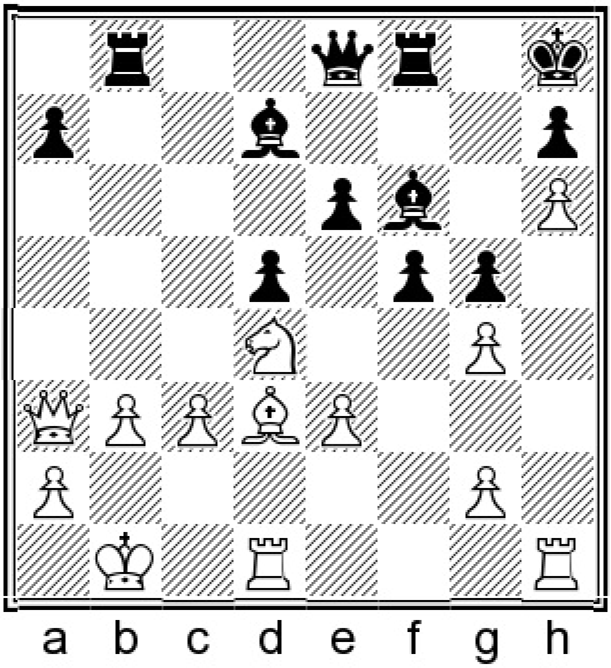
21.h5 g5 22.h6 ♗f6 23.g4 ♖b8 24.♕a3 ♕e8 The queen returns to what Gurevich calls its "favoured square" in Dutch set-ups, from which it surveys both sides of the board and supports action in the centre.

25.♗d3 ♗a4!? 26.b3? A further weakening of the diagonal of Black's dark-squared bishop...

Naturally, 26.♖d2? ♗e7 could not suit White, but Gurevich suggests that White should instead prefer 26.♗c2, when Black continues 26...♗xc2 27.♔xc2 f4, etc.

Aiming to provoke a further loosening of White's position; naturally, Black does not object to 26.♘xe6 ♕xe6 27.♕xa4 ♕xe3+

26...♗d7 27.♔b1



The time has come for Black to go over to the attack. **27...e5! 28.♘xf5 e4 29.♗c2 ♗xf5 30.gxf5 ♕c6** A situation with bishops of opposite colour has been created. As is well known, this helps the attacking side - he is effectively playing with an extra piece on the dark squares. The bishop on f6 will have its say...

31.c4 ♖fd8

Exploiting the fact that 31...♕xc4?? fails to 32.♕xf8+

Gurevich relates that Mikhail Tal, who was present in Haifa, asked at the end of the game "Well now, why not 31...♖fc8 ?", and then disappeared! However, on this White had prepared the devilish reply 32.♖xd5 ♕xc4 and now 33.♕b2!!, when it is not clear who stands better. 33...♕c6 34.♖c5! ♗xb2 35.♖xc6 ♖xc6 36.♔xb2 ♖bb6 37.♗xe4 ♖xh6 38.♖d1 I still remember seeing Hodgson showing this variation with 33.Qb2!! to people the day after the round was played. He too was proud of this game, even though he lost!

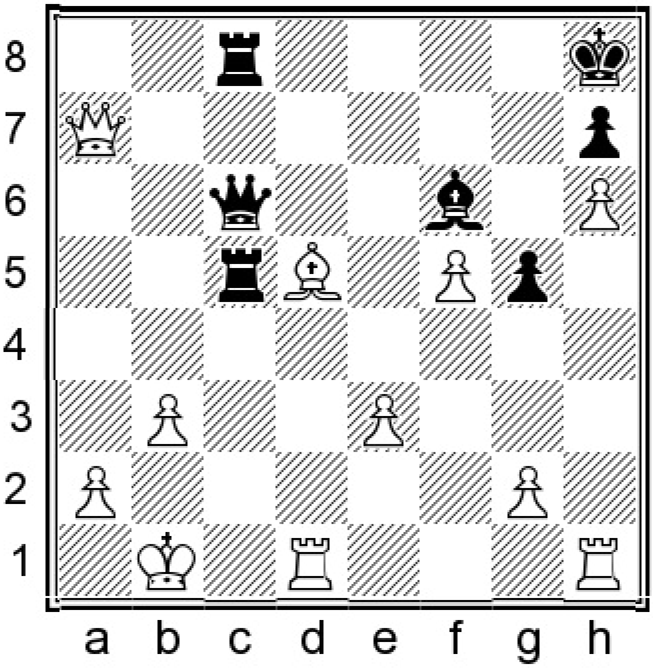
32.c5 ♖b5 33.♗xe4! ♖xc5

Again extremely clever play by White. On 33...dxe4 34.♖xd8+ ♗xd8 35.♕xa7 the situation suddenly becomes quite inpleasant for Black. However, Gurevich has everything under control. 35...♗f6 36.♖d1!

34.♕xa7

Or 34.♖c1 ♖xc1+ 35.♖xc1 ♕b6 followed by ...Qe3

34...♖c8! 35.♗xd5



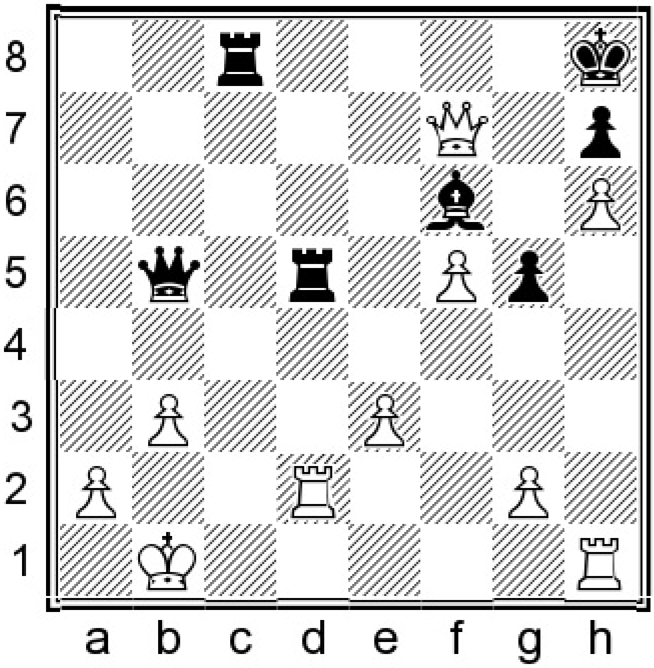
35...♕b5 (?) Threatening both 36...Rc1! and 36...Qe2.

This wins for Black, but later Gurevich expressed his regret at letting slip the possibility of concluding the game with 35...♖xd5! 36.♖c1 ♖d1!!

36.♖d2

36.♕f7 fails to 36...♖c1+!, while 36.♗e4 is met by 36...♕e2

36...♖xd5 37.♕f7 Tricky to the last. There mate is threatened after 38.Qf6, and meanwhile the rook on d5 is attacked. But again, Gurevich has seen one step further.



37...♖d6! With deadly threat of 38...Qf5. Hodgson has one final trick up his sleeve: **38.♖c2** Hoping to exploit the weakness of Black's back rank. However, there followed a fitting finale: **38...♕xf5 39.♖c1 ♕xc2+!** - and White resigned. **0-1**

It was a privilege to witness such a game.

Game 5

The early 1990s marked the beginning of my withdrawal from regular participation in chess events, and by the middle of the decade I had "retired" altogether. However, my interest in the game and its history never left me, and later returned with a vengeance. Eventually, I turned my attention to completing my back-catalogue of *Chess Informant* volumes, where many a gem is to be discovered, including the following remarkable encounter.

The Saint Petersburg master Alexander Shashin is perhaps best known as the author of a book about algorithms to find the best move in any given position. He also deserves to be known for his victory against Viktor Korchnoi in the Leningrad Championship of 1973 – one that, not surprisingly, Shashin called the "game of his life".

This game is annotated by A. A. Shashin in *Shakhmaty v SSSR* (No. 5, 1973), and by V. L. Kortschnoj in *Chess Informant* (vol. 15/538). The notes here are based on these sources.

E57
Shashin, Alexsander A (2395) - Kortschnoj, Viktor (2650)
USSR 15/538, 1973

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.e3 O-O 5.♗d3 c5 6.♘f3 d5 7.O-O ♘c6 8.a3 cxd4 A relatively rare continuation. Kortschnoj's attention may have been attracted by the encounter Portisch,Lajos 2640 - Larsen,Bent 2625, Las Palmas 1972; here he employs the line chosen by Larsen in that game.

Much more popular has been 8...♗xc3 9.bxc3 and then 9...dxc4 10.♗xc4 ♕c7 or immediately 9...Qc7

9.exd4 ♗xc3 10.bxc3 dxc4 11.♗xc4 ♕a5 12.♗b2

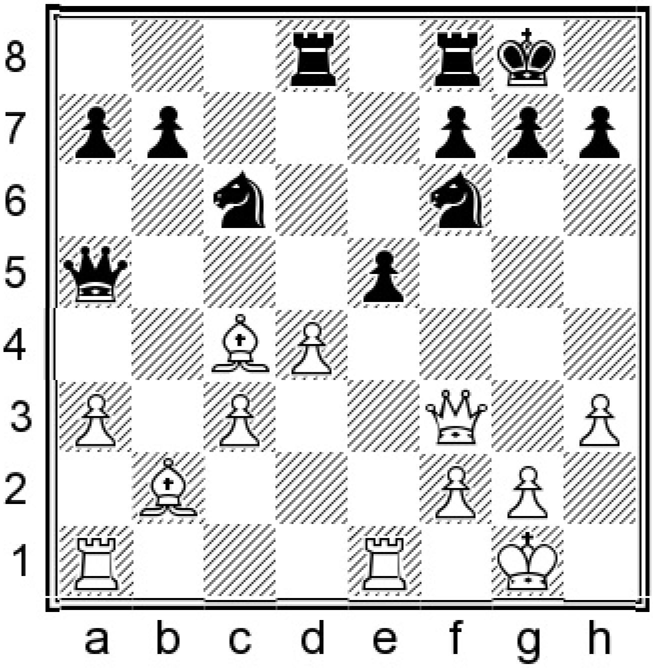
The above-mentioned Portisch - Larsen game continued instead 12.♕c2 e5, etc. (see *Chess Informant*, vol. 13/632).

Interestingly, as long ago as 1956 Kortschnoj had played this position with the white pieces. Against Aleksander Buslaev (24th USSR Championship Semi-final, 1956) he had sacrificed the c-pawn with 12.♕e2 ♕xc3 13.♗d2 ♕c2 14.♗d3, etc. Kortschnoj,Viktor - Buslaev,Aleksander, 24th USSR Championship Semi-final, 1956

12...e5 13.♖e1 ♗g4

Kortschnoj suggests the alternative 13...e4!? 14.♘d2 ♗g4 15.♕c2 ♗f5

14.h3 ♗xf3 15.♕xf3 ♖ad8 Here Shashin writes that White's bishop pair compensates for Black's pressure on his pawn centre, but he still has to solve the problem of the b2-bishop.



16.♗a2! White can ignore the attack on d4 for the time being; meanwhile he transfers his bishop to a better square.

On the obvious 16.♖ad1, Kortschnoj planned 16...♖d6! (16...♖d7?! 17.d5 e4 18.dxc6!) 17.d5 e4 18.♕g3 ♖fd8, etc.

16...♖d7

On 16...exd4 17.cxd4 ♘xd4 18.♗xd4 ♖xd4 White continues 19.♖e7 (Shashin gives 19.♕xb7) 19...♘d5 20.♖xb7, with some advantage.

17.♖e2 Rather than defend the d-pawn, White intends to attack the black pawn on e5 so as to induced the capture on d4, when White's dark-squared bishop comes to life.

17...♖fd8

17...exd4 Kortschnoj mentions the possibility 18.cxd4 ♖xd4, when White continues 19.♖e7! ♘xe7 20.♗xd4, with obvious compensation for the missing pawn.

Shashin suggests that Black should prefer 17...♕b6, and if 18.dxe5, then (18.d5 e4 19.♕f5 ♘e7!) 18...♘xe5

18.♖ae1 exd4 19.cxd4 ♕b6 "Thus, the queen has all the same gone to b6. However, White now has a much greater choice of active continuations, compared with that which he had earlier." - Alexsander Shashin.

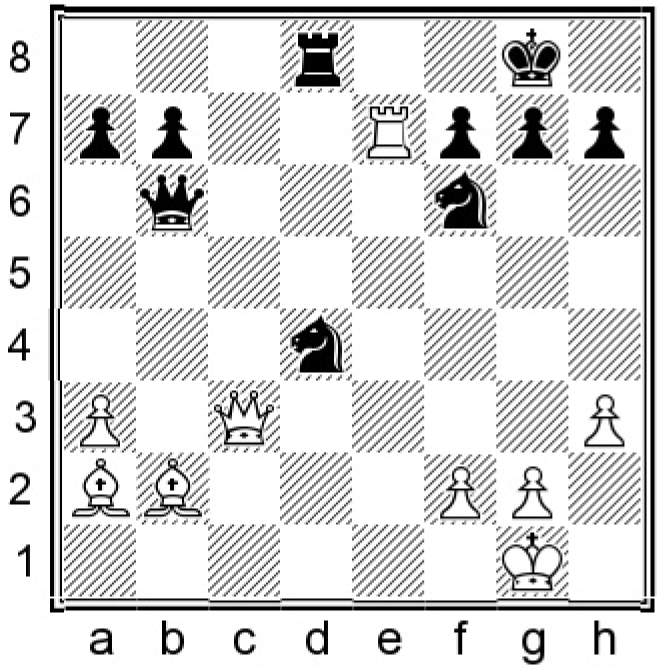
Of course, 19...♘xd4?? would be a blunder - 20.♗xd4 ♖xd4 21.♖e8+! leads to mate.

20.♕c3! "Leading to head-spinning complications" (Shashin) ; the immediate threat is 21.d5.

20...♘xd4

20...♖xd4? (or 20...Qd4?) loses material after 21.♕g3!

21.♖e7 ♖xe7 22.♖xe7



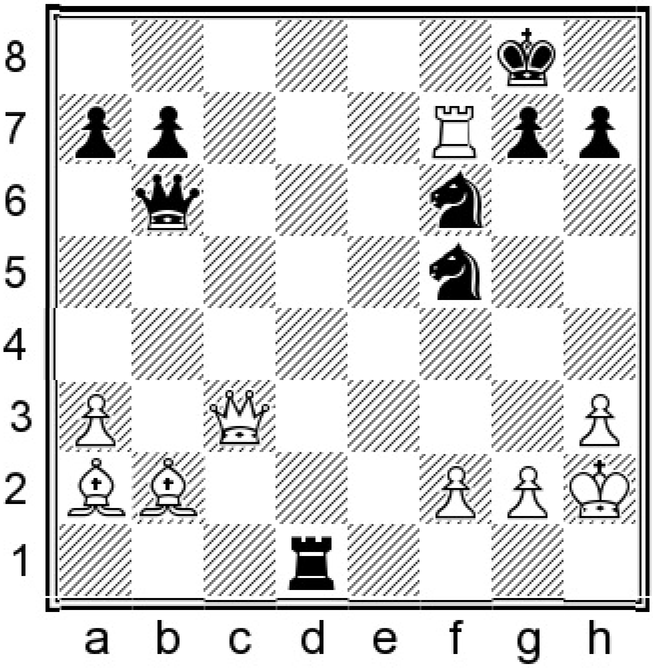
22...♘f5!

This is much stronger than 22...♘e6, when White continues 23.♕b3!, gaining the better endgame. (Note that 23.♗xe6 but Black continues instead 23...♖d1+ (23...fxe6 fails to 24.♖xg7+!) 24.♔h2 ♕d6+)

22...♕d6!? could also be considered, but here too White gains a clear advantage after 23.♕e1! (Kortschnoj) (Or 23.♕b4! (Shashin).)

23.♖xf7! Accepting the challenge! To withdraw the rook would have been "moral capitulation" (Shashin).

23...♖d1+ 24.♔h2



Here Black has two continuations - 24...Ng4 and 24... Qd6. Which should he choose?

24...♕d6+? Kortschnoj goes wrong!

Correct is 24...♘g4+! 25.hxg4 ♕d6+! and now the only move to avoid mate is (25...♕h6+? 26.♕h3 ♕f4+ 27.g3 ♕xf2+ 28.♕g2 ♕xg2+ 29.♔xg2 ♖d2+ 30.♔h3 ♖xb2 31.♗e6! - Shashin) 26.♕g3!, when the forcing play continues: 26...♘xg3 27.♖d7+ ♔f8 28.♗xg7+ ♔e8 29.♖xd6 ♘f1+ and now White has two choices. After 30.Kg1 the reply 30...Nd2! leads to a draw. Shashin relates that the day after the game was played, Kortschnoj put forward the winning try 30.♔h3!? ♖xd6 (with the threat of 31...Rg6!, winning the bishop) 31.g5 "and White is better"; in his later notes in *Chess Informant*, however, he assesses the situation as unclear after 31...♖d2 32.♗g8 ♖xf2 33.♗xh7

25.g3 ♘g4+ 26.♔g2 Forced;

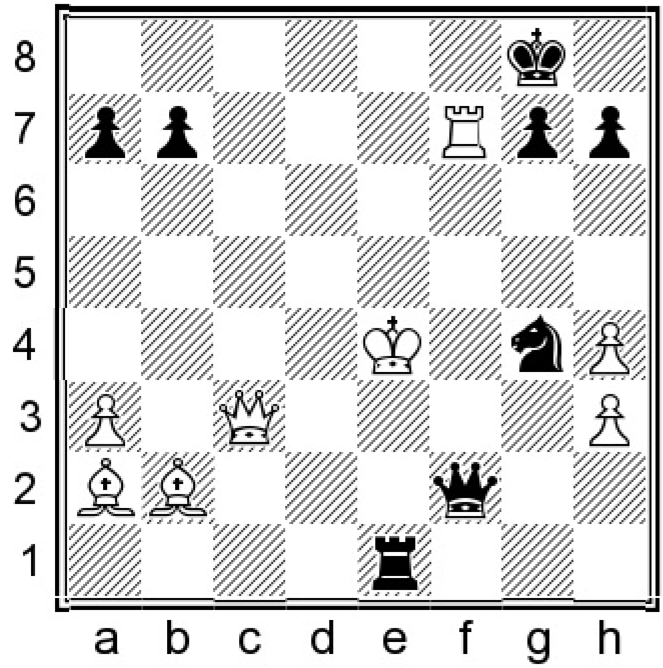
26.hxg4 leads to mate after 26...♕h6+

26...♘h4+ 27.gxh4 ♕h2+ 28.♔f3 ♕xf2+ 29.♔e4

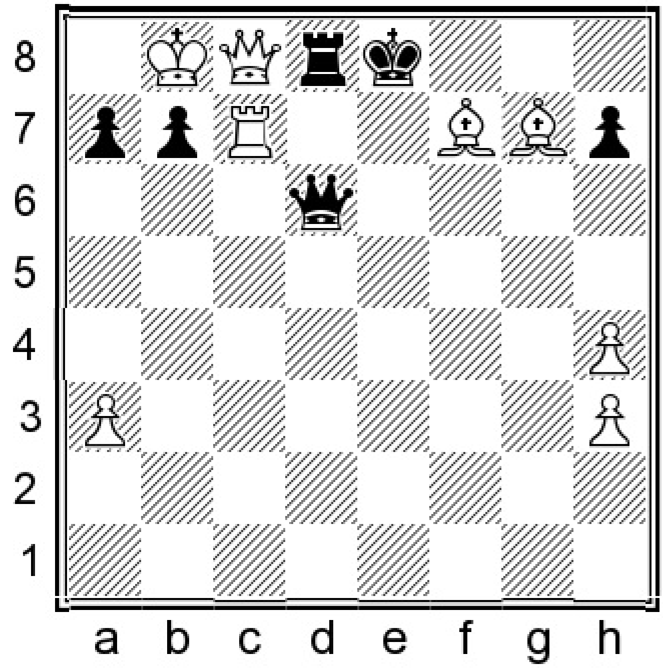
Once more, the only move. After 29.♔xg4? White is again mated: 29...♖g1+ 30.♔h5 g6+ 31.♔h6 ♕xh4#

29...♕e2+? After this Black loses fairly prosaically.

Correct was 29...♖e1+, when White has a win, but it is an extremely complicated and beautiful one:



30.♔d5! The most remarkable variations arise after the alternative 30...♘e3+ After this White wins as follows: (Shashin also mentions the possibility 30...♖d1+, with his analysis running: 31.♔c4 ♘e3+ (31...♕xf7+ 32.♔b4!) 32.♔b5! ♕e2+ 33.♔b4 ♘c2+ 34.♔c5 and White escapes from the checks. (But not 34.♕xc2?, after which 34...a5+! draws.); 30...♕xf7+ 31.♔d6! (31.♔c5? ♖e5+!) 31...♖d1+ 32.♔c5 b6+ 33.♔b4! (33.♔b5 ♖d5+) 33...a5+ 34.♔a4 b5+ 35.♔xa5, and Black's resistance comes to an end.) 31.♔d6 (31.♔c5? ♘f5+) 31...♘c4+! 32.♕xc4 Now Black has two possibilities: 32...Qb6 or 32...Rd1. Still prettier is the win after (32.♗xc4? ♕b6+ 33.♔d5 ♕e6+, etc.) 32...♖d1+ On this Black is mated in quite astonishing fashion: (After 32...♕b6+ 33.♔d7 ♖d1+ 34.♗d4! ♖xd4+ 35.♕xd4 ♕xd4+ 36.♔c8! Black is defenceless.) 33.♔c7 ♕b6+ 34.♔b8 ♖d8+ 35.♕c8 ♕d6+ 36.♖c7+ ♔f8 37.♗xg7+ ♔e8 38.♗f7#



A line that looks like pure fantasy, but its correctness is confirmed by modern engines.

30.♔f4

Now Black has only a few checks remaining. The game concluded as follows: **30...♖f1+ 31.♔g5 h6+ 32.♔g6 ♘e5+ 33.♕xe5 ♖g1+ 34.♕g5! ♕xb2 35.♖xg7+** and Black resigned. **1-0**

With this my selection concludes. I hope the reader will have enjoyed the games as much as I did in reviewing them for publication!

Douglas Griffin (Aberdeenshire, Scotland)

Competitive player since the age of 12, representing Scotland at all levels from Under-14 to senior international during 1980-1989. Inactive over-the-board since the mid-1990s, but remains a keen student of chess history, and diligent collector of classic chess literature in the English and Russian languages. Chess Informant associate.

Douglas Griffin in Central Chess Club, Moscow 2019

Г.Каспаров
А.Карпов

PARTIJE • ПАРТИИ • GAMES • PARTIEN • PARTIES • PARTIDAS • PARTITE • PARTIER • 一盘(棋) • الاشواط

KLASIFIKACIJA OTVARANJA • КЛАССИФИКАЦИЯ ДЕБЮТОВ • CLASSIFICATION OF OPENINGS • KLASSIFIZIERUNG DER ERÖFFNUNGEN • CLASSIFICATION DES OUVERTURES • CLASIFICACIÓN DE LAS APERTURAS • CLASSIFICAZIONE DELLE APERTURE • KLASSIFIKATION AV ÖPPNINGAR • 开局方法种类 • تصنيف الافتتاحيات

A — R ⌋ 1. d4, 1. e4
— 1. d4 R ⌋ 1... ♘f6, 1... d5
— 1. d4 ♘f6 R ⌋ 2. c4
— 1. d4 ♘f6 2. c4 R ⌋ 2... e6, 2... g6

B — 1. e4 R ⌋ 1... c5, 1... e6, 1... e5
— 1. e4 c5

C — 1. e4 e6
— 1. e4 e5

D — 1. d4 d5
— 1. d4 ♘f6 2. c4 g6 ⌊ 3... d5

E — 1. d4 ♘f6 2. c4 e6
— 1. d4 ♘f6 2. c4 g6 ⌋ 3... d5

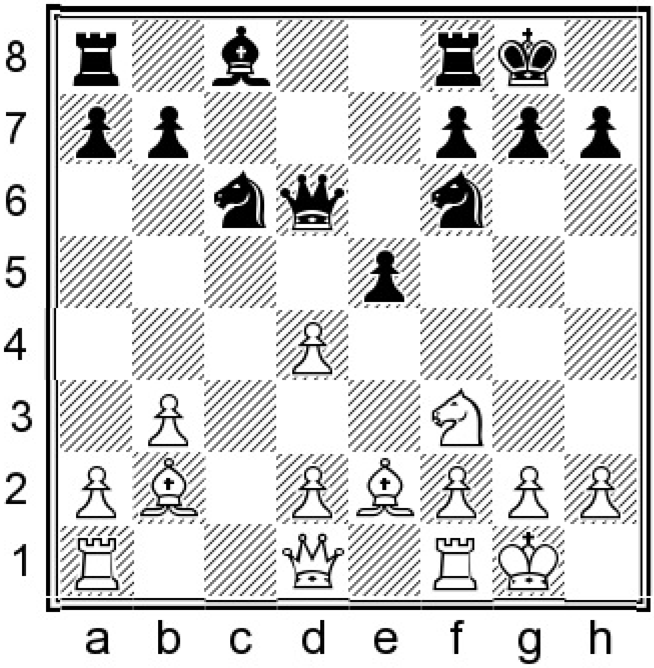
A00-A24

1. ** A11
Ponkratov, Pavel (2659) - Motylev, Alexander (2624)
Russia (ch) 150/1, 2021

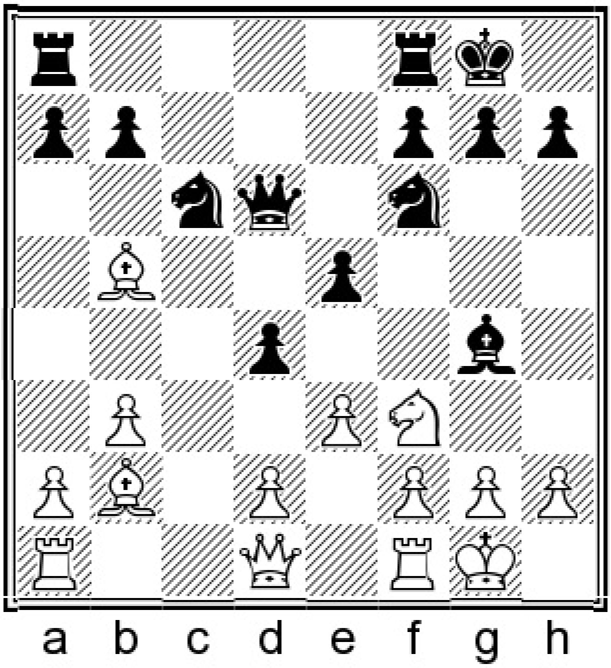
1.♘f3 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 ♘f6 4.♘c3 e6 5.b3 ♗d6 6.♗b2 O-O 7.♗e2 e5

7...♘bd7 - 106/(172)

8.cxd5 cxd5 9.♘b5 ♘c6 10.♘xd6 ♕xd6 11.O-O d4 12.exd4



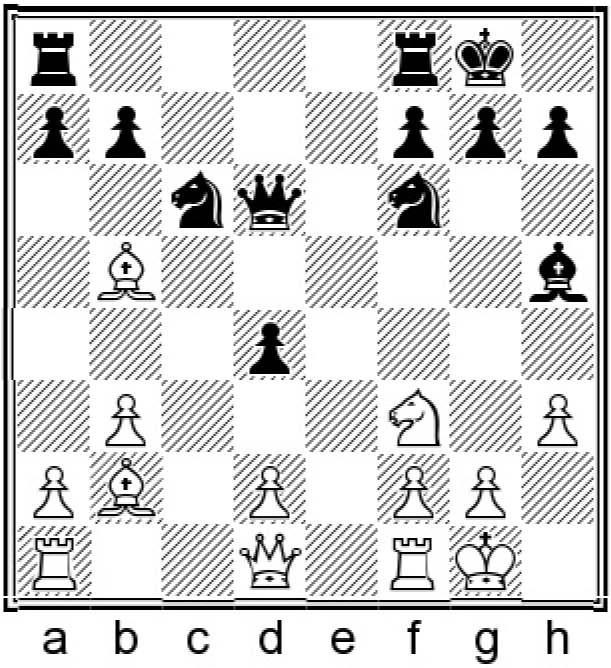
12.♗b5 ♗g4



13.h3N (13.♗xc6) 13...♗h5 14.♗xc6 bxc6 15.d3 dxe3 16.fxe3 ♖fe8= Keymer,V (2630)-Aloma Vidal,R (2437) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(1) 2021

12...e4!?N

12...exd4 - 150/(1) 13.♗b5 ♗g4 14.h3 ♗h5



15.g4?N (15.♖e1) 15...♗g6 (15...♘xg4! 16.hxg4 ♗xg4 17.♕e2 ♕g6 18.♘h4 ♗xe2+ 19.♘xg6 ♗xb5 20.♘xf8 ♗xf1-+) 16.♗xc6 bxc6 17.♗xd4∞ Visakh,N (2516)-Jaracz,P (2456) chess.com (Int. -blitz) 150/(1) 2021

13.♘e5 ♘xd4 14.♘c4 ♕d8 15.♖c1 ♖e8 16.♘e3 ♗e6 17.♗c4 ♗xc4 18.♖xc4 ♘c6 19.♕a1 ♖e6 20.♖d1

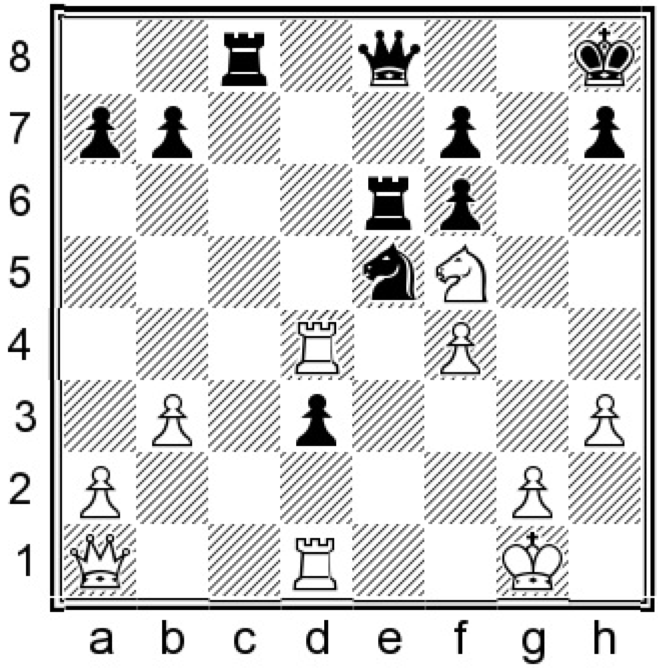
♕d3 21.♖c3 ♕d7 22.d3 ♖d6 23.♖c5 exd3 24.♗xf6 gxf6 25.h3 ♖e8 26.♘f5 ♖de6 27.♕c3 ♖d8 28.♖c4 ♔h8 29.♖g4 ♘e5?

29...♕d5 30.♘e3 ♕d6=

30.♖d4! ♕e8 31.f4?

31.♖xd8 ♕xd8 32.f4 ♘c6 (32...♖c6 33.♕e1 (33.♕d4 ♕xd4+ 34.♘xd4 ♖c5 (34...♖d6 35.♘f5+-) 35.fxe5 fxe5 36.b4 ♖c4 37.♘f5 e4 38.♔f2 ♖xb4 39.♔e3+-)) 33.♖xd3 ♕b6+ 34.♔h2+-

31...♖c8! 32.♕a1



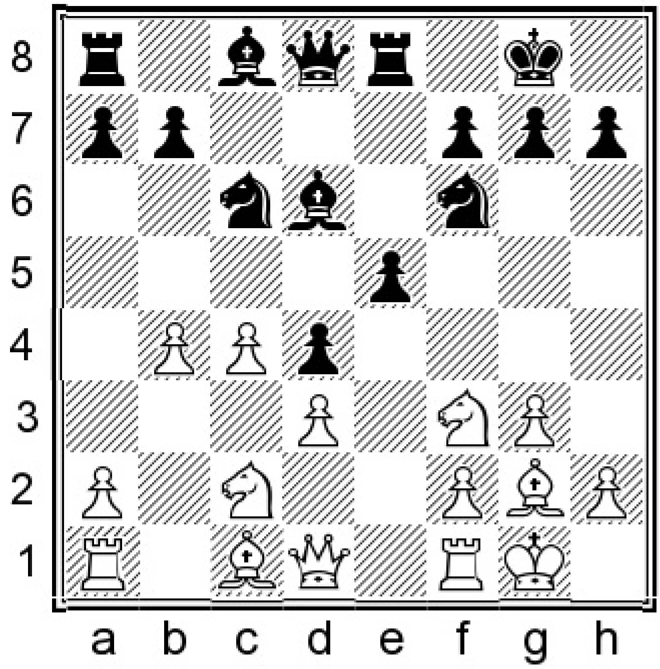
32...♘f3+! 33.gxf3 ♖e2 34.♘h4 ♕g8+ 35.♔h1 ♖cc2 0-1

2. A13
Bruzon Batista, Lazaro (2645) - Sevian, Samuel (2654)
USA (ch) 150/2, 2021

1.♘f3 d5 2.g3 ♘f6 3.♗g2 c5 4.c4 d4 5.e3 ♘c6 6.exd4 cxd4 7.O-O e6 8.d3 ♗d6 9.♘a3

9.♗g5 - 142/5

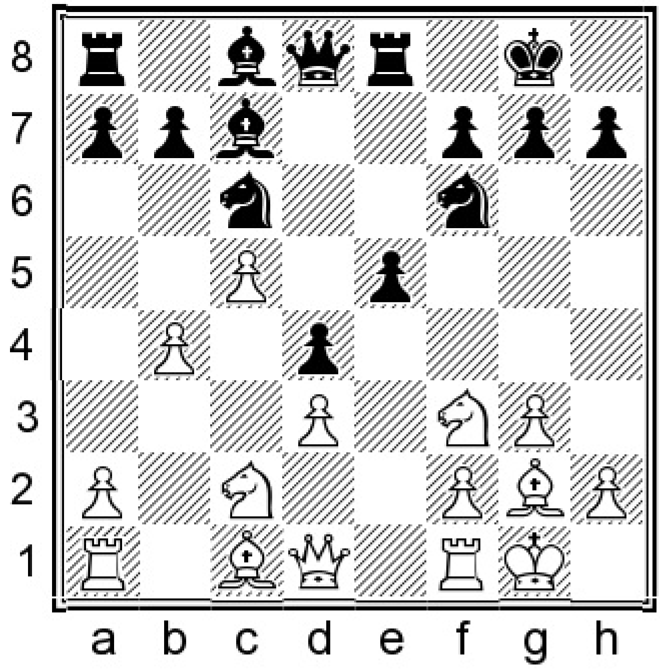
9...O-O 10.♘c2 e5 11.b4 ♖e8



12.c5?!

12.♖e1 ♗g4 13.c5 ♗f8 (13...♗c7?! 14.h3 ♗h5 15.b5↑) 14.h3 (14.♗b2 ♕d7 15.♕d2 h6 16.a4 a6 17.♖ac1 ♖ac8 18.♖b1!? (18.♗a3?! e4 19.dxe4 ♗xf3 20.♗xf3 d3 21.♘a1 ♘e5∓)) 14...♗xf3 15.♕xf3 e4 16.dxe4 a5=∞

12...♗c7?

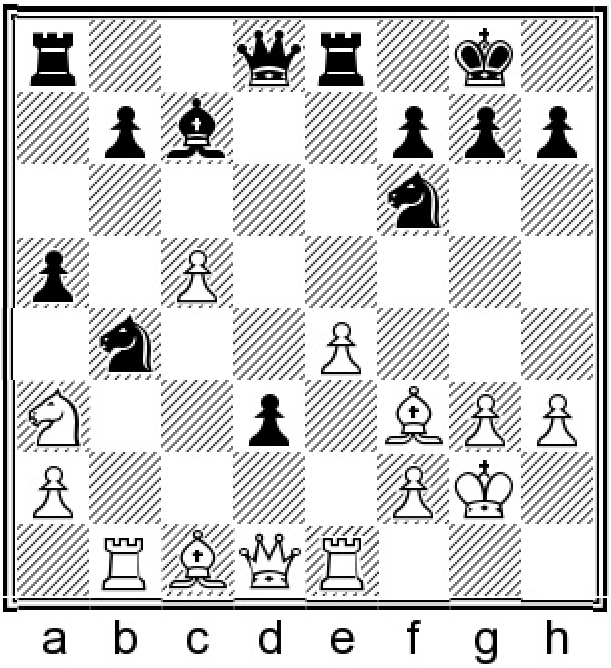


12...♗f8! 13.♗g5 h6 14.♗xf6 ♕xf6 15.♘d2 ♗f5 16.♘e4 ♕g6 17.♖e1 a5 18.b5 ♘d8∓

13.♖e1?!N

13.♗g5 ♗g4 (13...h6 14.♗xf6 ♕xf6 15.♘d2 ♕g6 16.b5 ♘e7 17.♘c4 ♗e6 18.♖e1 ♗xc4 19.dxc4 ♗a5 20.♖e4 ♖ac8 21.♘e1 ♕e6 22.♘d3 f6 (22...♗c3?! 23.♖xe5 ♕xc4 24.♖b1 ♘g6 25.♖h5 ♖cd8 26.♗xb7 ♖e7 (26...♕xa2!?) 27.♗g2±) 23.♕a4 ♗c3 24.♖f1±) 14.h3 ♗e6 15.♖e1 h6 16.♗xf6 ♕xf6 17.♘d2±

13...e4!? 14.dxe4 d3 15.♘a3 ♗g4 16.h3 ♗xf3 17.♗xf3 ♘xb4 18.♖b1 a5 19.♔g2??



19.♖e3 ♕d7 20.♘c4 ♖ad8 21.♖b3 ♕d4 22.♘d6 ♗xd6 23.cxd6 ♕xd6 24.♗d2=

19...♘d7! [Δ Ne5] **20.♗e3 ♘e5 21.♖b3 ♘xa2 22.♔h2 a4 0-1**

3. * A13
Petrosyan, Manuel (2605) - Anton Guijarro, David (2658)
Riga 150/3, 2021

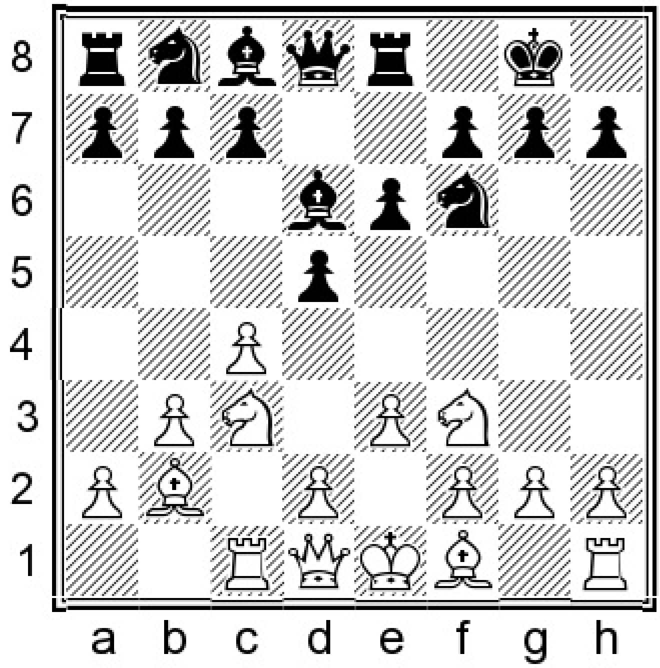
1.♘f3 d5 2.e3 ♘f6 3.c4 e6 4.b3 ♗d6 5.♗b2 O-O 6.♘c3

6.♗e2 - 5/27

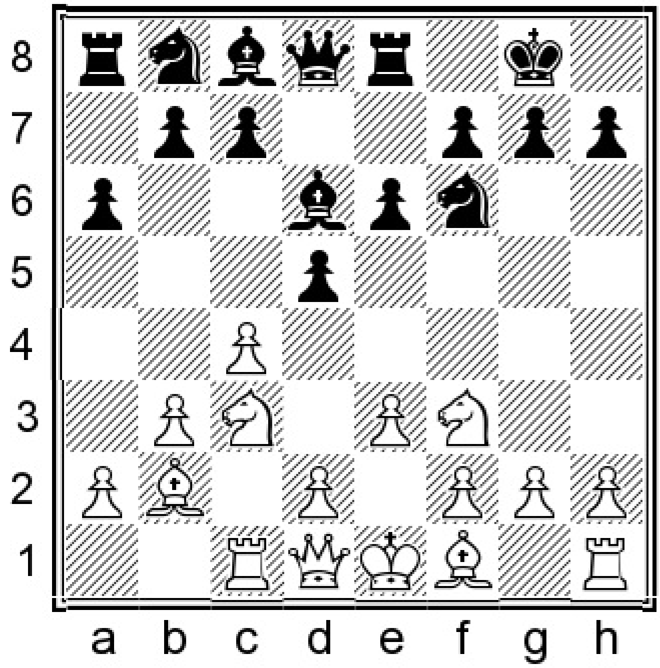
6...♖e8

6...c6 7.d4 - D

7.♖c1



7...a6N

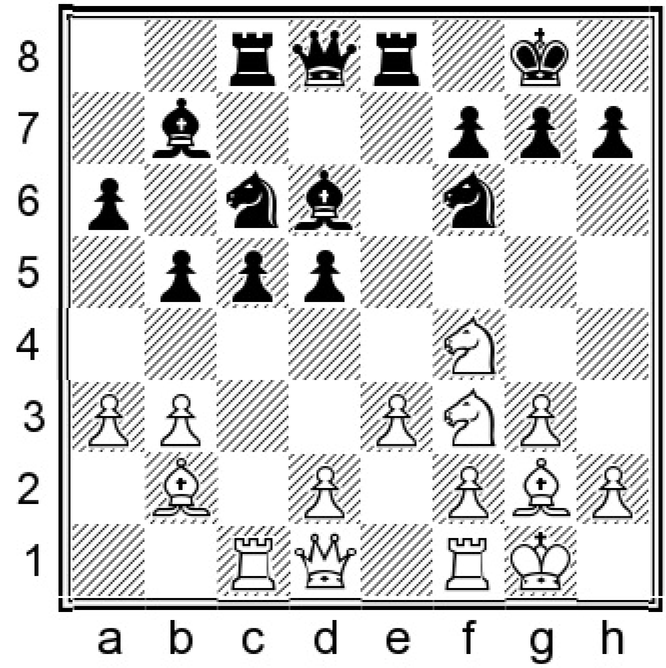


7...c5

8.g3N

8.d4 - 150/(3) 8...b6 9.g3 ♗b7 10.cxd5 ♘xd5 11.♘xd5 ♗xd5 12.♗g2 ♗b4+ 13.♗c3 ♗a3 14.♖a1 a5 15.O-O ♘d7 16.♕c2 ♘f6∞ Olivier,P (2215)-Anton Guijarro,D (2651) Struga 150/(3) 2021

8...c5 9.♗g2 ♘c6 10.cxd5 exd5 11.O-O b5 12.a3 ♗b7 13.♘e2 ♖c8 14.♘f4?!

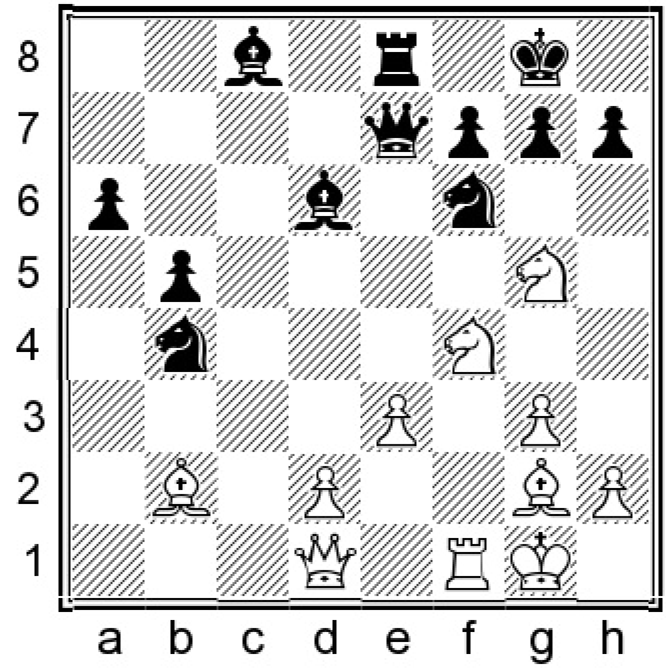


14.d3

14...d4! 15.b4 cxb4 16.axb4 dxe3

16...♗xf4 17.exf4 (17.gxf4 dxe3 18.dxe3 (18.fxe3 ♘xb4) 18...♕xd1 19.♖fxd1 ♘xb4∓) 17...♘xb4 18.♖xc8 ♕xc8 19.♗xd4 ♕d8∓

17.fxe3 ♘xb4 18.♖xc8 ♗xc8 19.♘g5 ♕e7?



19...♗xf4! 20.♖xf4 ♘bd5 21.♖d4 h6 (21...♖e5!?) 22.♘xf7 ♔xf7 23.♗xd5+ ♘xd5 24.♕h5+ ♔g8 25.♖xd5 ♕e7∞

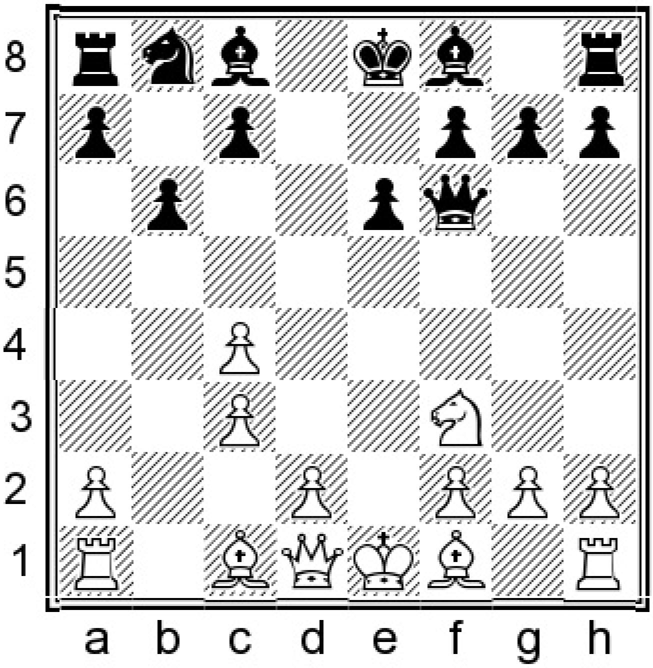
20.♘h5! ♗e5 21.♕b1! ♗xb2 22.♘xf6+ ♕xf6 23.♖xf6 ♗xf6 24.♕xh7+ ♔f8 25.♕h5 ♗e6 26.♘h7+

26.♘xe6+ fxe6 (26...♖xe6? 27.♕c5+ ♗e7 28.♕c8++-) 27.♕c5+ ♗e7 28.♕e5 ♗f6 29.♕d6++-

26...♔g8 27.♘xf6+ gxf6 28.♗e4 ♔g7 29.h4+- ♖d8 30.♕h7+ ♔f8 31.h5 ♔e7 32.h6 a5 33.♗f5 ♗d5 34.e4 ♗c4 35.♕g7 ♖xd2 36.h7 ♖d1+ 37.♔h2 ♖d2+ 38.♔g1 ♖d1+ 39.♔h2 ♖d2+ 40.♔h3 ♗f1+ 41.♔g4 ♘d3 42.h8=Q ♘e5+ 43.♔f4 ♖f2+ 44.♔e3 ♖e2+ 45.♔d4 1-0

4. A18
Van Foreest, Jorden (2691) - Ganguly, Surya Shekhar (2617)
Riga 150/4, 2021

1.c4 ♘f6 2.♘c3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 d4 5.exf6 dxc3 6.bxc3 ♕xf6 7.♘f3 b6



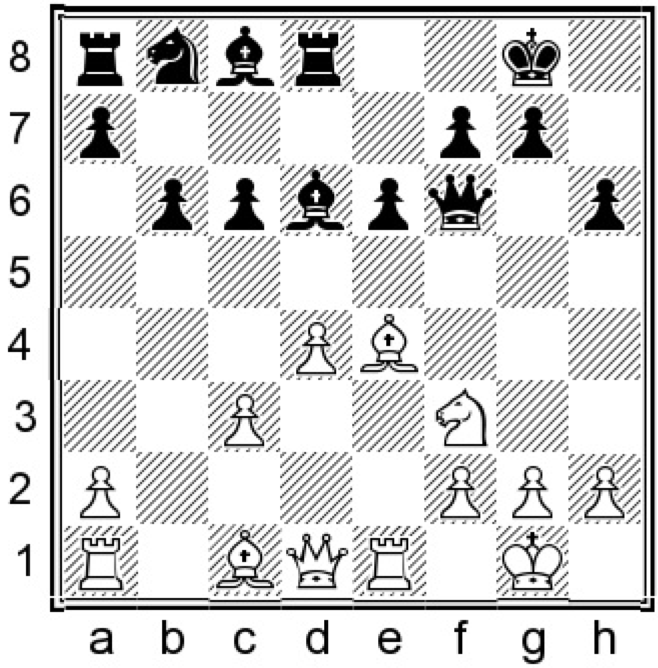
8.c5!?N

8.d4 - 140/5

8...♗xc5 9.d4 ♗d6 10.♗d3 h6

10...♕e7 11.♗e4 c6 12.O-O⩱

11.♗e4 c6 12.O-O O-O 13.♖e1 ♖d8?



13...♕e7 14.♘e5 (14.♗c2 ♗a6 15.♘e5 ♘d7!? 16.♘xc6 ♕f6∞) 14...♕c7 15.♕h5 f5 16.♗c2 ♘d7 17.♘c4 ♘f6 18.♕h3=∞

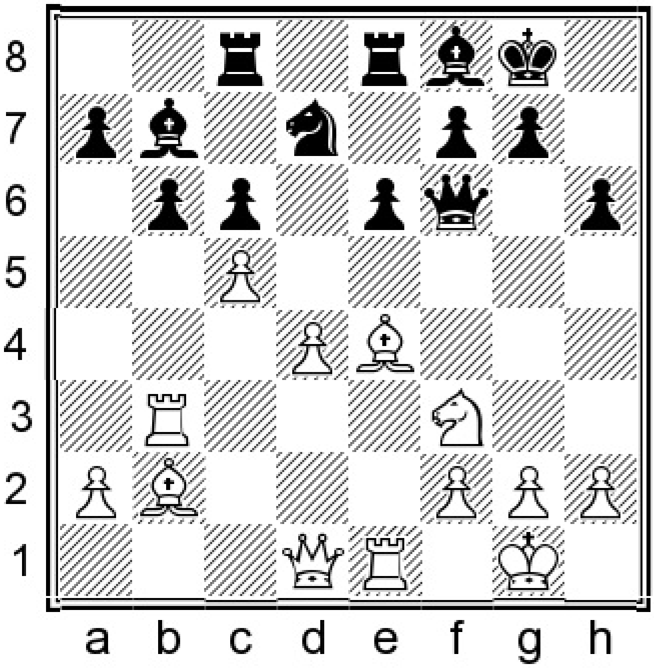
14.c4

14.g4!! ♕e7 (14...e5 15.g5 ♕e6 16.gxh6 g6 17.♔h1 f5 18.♘g5 ♕e7 19.♕b3+ ♔f8 20.dxe5 ♗c5 21.♗f3+-; 14...g5 15.h4 ♕g7 16.hxg5 hxg5 17.♘xg5 ♗e7 18.f4±) 15.g5→

14...♗b7 15.♖b1 ♘d7 16.♖b3 ♖ac8 17.♗b2 ♖e8

17...♘f8 18.♕a1 ♕e7 19.c5 (19.d5 cxd5 20.cxd5 f5) 19...♗c7 20.♗c2 ♖d5∞

18.c5 ♗f8



19.h4!→ ♕d8 20.♗b1 ♖c7

20...g6 21.h5

21.♕c2 f5 22.♖be3

22.♕c4 ♕f6

22...♗c8 23.♕b3!

23.♖xe6? ♖xe6 24.♖xe6 ♘xc5⇄

23...♘f6 24.♗xf5 ♘d5 25.♗b1!

25.♗xe6+ ♗xe6 26.♖xe6 ♖xe6 27.♖xe6 bxc5 28.dxc5↑

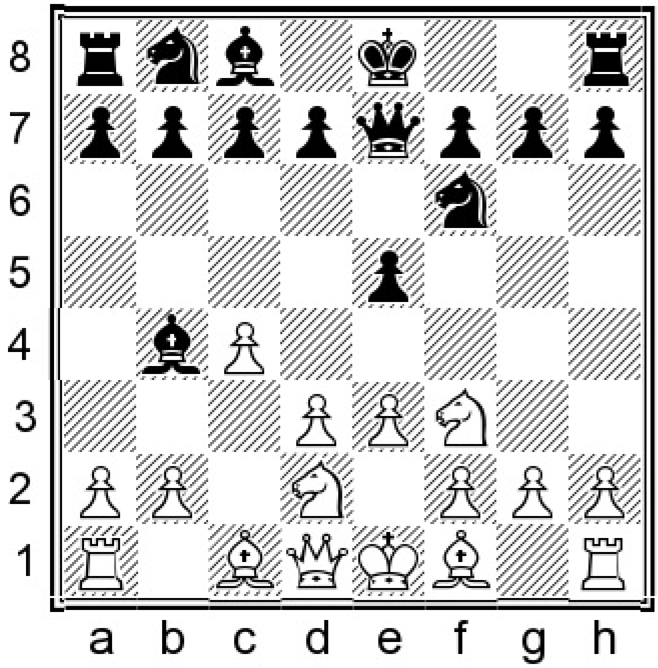
25...♘xe3 26.♖xe3 ♗e7 27.♕c2 ♗f6 28.♕h7+ ♔f8 29.♘e5 ♗xe5 30.dxe5 ♕xh4 31.♗g6 ♗d7 32.♖d3! 1-0

5. A20
Jobava, Baadur (2582) - Yilmaz, Mustafa Enes (2626)
Terme Catez 150/5, 2021

1.c4 e5 2.d3!? ♗b4+

2...♘f6 - 65/(17)

3.♘d2 ♘f6 4.♘f3 ♕e7 5.e3



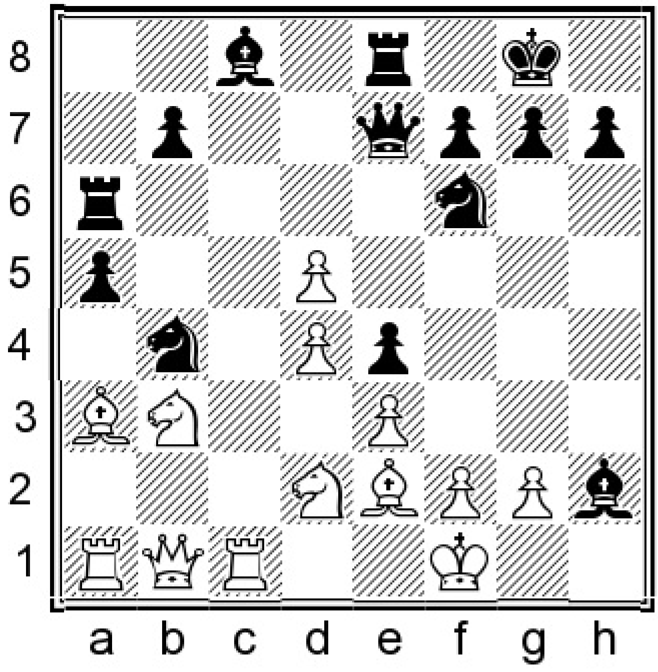
5...c5N

5...O-O

6.♗e2 ♘c6 7.O-O ♗a5!?

7...O-O 8.♘b3 ♘a5 9.a3 ♘xb3 10.♕xb3 ♗a5∞

8.a3 O-O 9.b4!? cxb4 10.♘b3 ♗c7 11.axb4 ♘xb4 12.♗a3 a5 13.♕b1 ♖a6 14.d4 e4 15.♘fd2 ♖e8 16.♖c1 d5 17.cxd5 ♗xh2+! 18.♔f1



18.♔xh2? ♘g4+ 19.♗xg4 (19.♔g1 ♕h4 20.♗xg4 ♖h6 21.f3 ♗xg4 22.fxg4 ♕h2+ 23.♔f1 ♖f6+-+)

19...♖h6+ 20.♗h3 (20.♔g1 ♕h4) 20...♗xh3 21.gxh3 ♕d7-+

18...♖a8?!

18...♗f5! 19.♗xb4 axb4 20.♗xa6 bxa6 21.♖xa6 ♘g4→

19.♘xa5

19.♗xb4 ♕xb4 20.♘c5 ♕xb1 21.♖cxb1⩱

19...♘fxd5 20.♗xb4 ♕h4 21.♘f3?

21.♖xc8! ♖axc8 22.♗c4 ♘f6= (22...♘xe3+ 23.fxe3 ♗g3 24.♗c3 ♕h1+ 25.♔e2 ♕h5+ (25...♕xg2+? 26.♔d1±) 26.♔f1=)

21...exf3 22.♗xf3 ♘f6?

22...♗e6∓

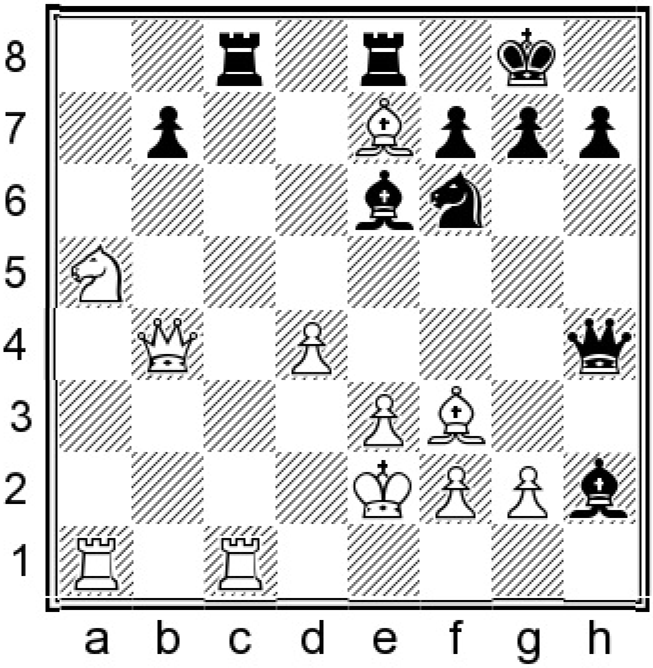
23.♗e7! ♗e6

23...♖xe7 24.♘c6! bxc6 25.♖xa8 ♖e8 26.♗xc6 ♖f8∞

24.♕b4 ♖ac8

24...♖xa5 25.♖xa5 ♗d6 26.♗xd6 ♕h1+ 27.♔e2 ♕xc1∞

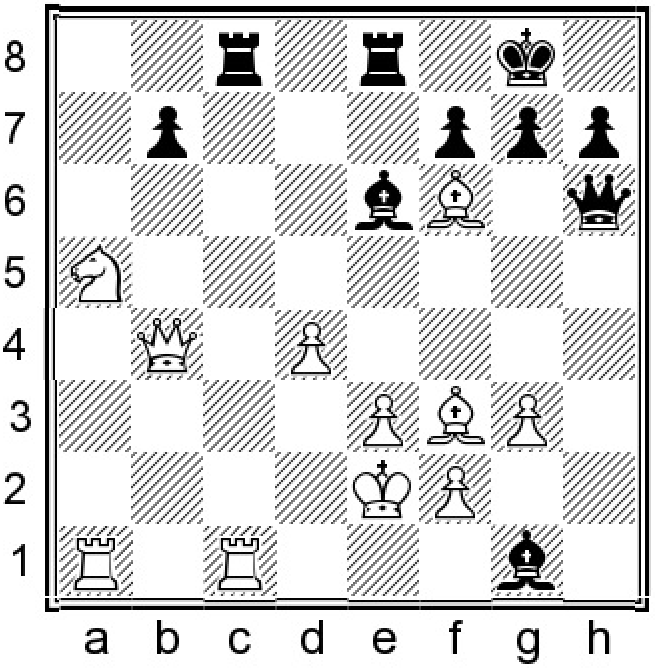
25.♔e2



25.♗xf6 ♕xf6 26.♘xb7 ♖b8∞

25...♕g5?

25...♗g1!! 26.g3 ♕h6 27.♖xc8 (27.♗xf6



27...♗xf2!! 28.♔xf2 ♕h2+ 29.♗g2 (29.♔e1 ♕xg3+ 30.♔e2 (30.♔d2 ♕xf3-+) 30...♗g4!-+) 29...♗d5-+) 27...♖xc8 28.♖xg1 ♖c2+ 29.♔e1 ♖c1+ 30.♔d2 ♖xg1 31.♕xb7 ♔h8! 32.d5 ♘g8! 33.dxe6 ♕xe6∞

26.♘xb7 ♕g6 27.♗xf6 ♖c2+

27...gxf6 28.♘c5±

28.♖xc2 ♕xc2+ 29.♕d2 ♕c4+ 30.♔e1 gxf6 31.♖c1 ♕a6

31...♕b3 32.♘c5 ♕b6 33.g3+-

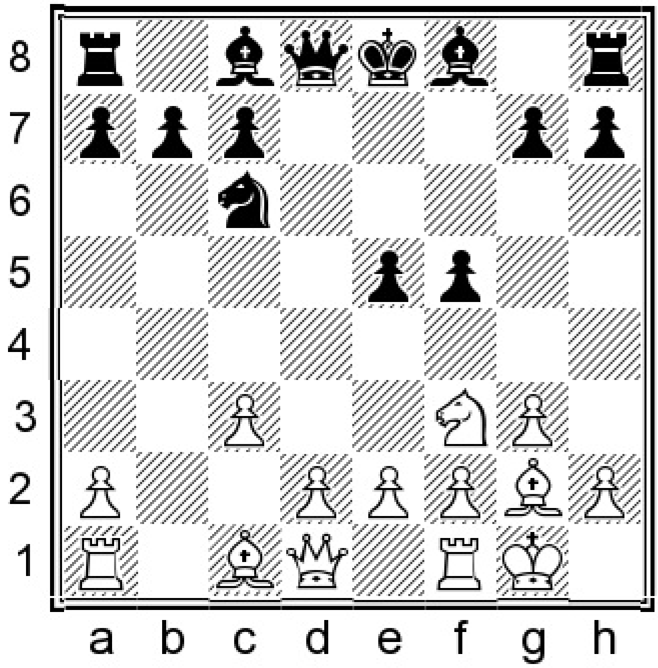
32.♘c5 ♕a3 33.g3+- ×Bh2 **33...♗h3 34.♕c3 ♕a7 35.♖a1 ♕b8 36.♔d2 f5 37.♖a8 ♕xa8 38.♗xa8 ♖xa8 39.♕b3 ♗g2 40.♘d3 ♖a5 41.♘f4 ♗e4 42.♕b8+ ♔g7 43.♘h5+ ♔h6 44.♕b6+ 1-0**

6. A20
Vitiugov, Nikita (2727) - Ponkratov, Pavel (2659)
Riga 150/6, 2021

1.c4 e5 2.g3 ♘f6 3.♗g2 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.♘f3 ♘c6 6.O-O f5

6...♘b6 7.b3 - 142/9 (7.♘c3 - A 29)

7.♘c3 ♘xc3 8.bxc3


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

8...♗d6N

8...e4?! 9.♘e1 ♗c5 10.d3 O-O 11.♕c2 exd3 12.♘xd3! ♗d6 13.♗f4±

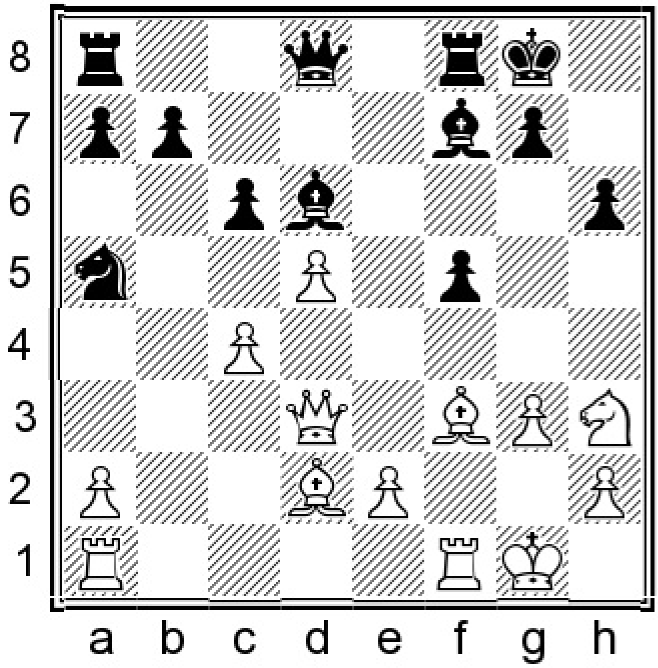
9.d4 e4 10.♘g5 h6 11.♘h3 O-O 12.f3 exf3 13.♗xf3 ♘a5

13...g5 14.♘f2 Δ e4±

14.c4 ♗e6 15.d5 ♗f7 16.♕d3 c6

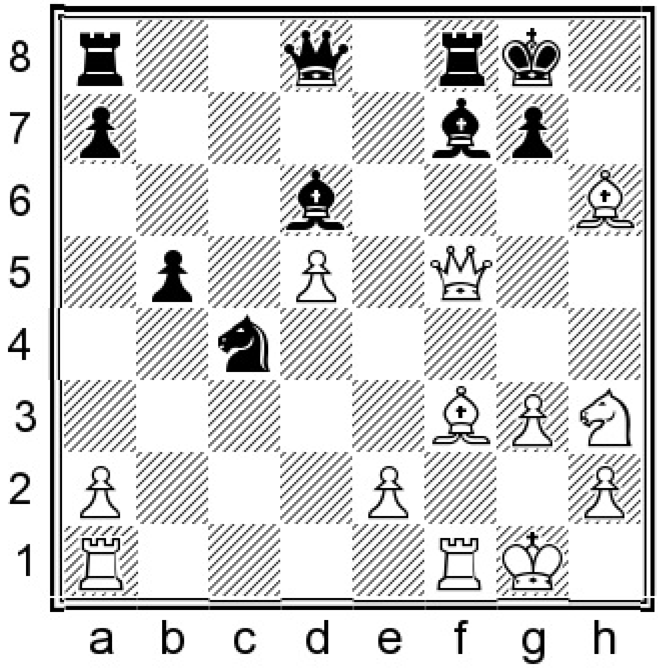
16...♕f6 17.♗e3 ♖ad8 18.♗g2±

17.♗d2


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

17...♖c8?

17...b5! 18.cxb5 cxb5 19.♕xf5 (19.♕xb5 ♕b6+! 20.♕xb6 axb6=∞) 19...♘c4 20.♗xh6!



20...♗e5! (20...gxh6? 21.♗e4 ♕b6+ 22.♔h1+-) 21.d6! (21.♖ad1? ♕b6+-+) 21...♗xa1 22.♘g5 g6 23.♕f4 ♗e5 24.♕h4 ♕xd6 25.♗xa8 ♕c5+ 26.♔h1 ♗d5+ 27.♗xd5+ ♕xd5+ 28.♘f3 ♗g7=∞

18.♖ac1± cxd5

18...b6 19.♕xf5±

19.cxd5 ♔h8 20.♖xc8 ♕xc8 21.♖c1 ♕d8 22.♘f4 b5 23.♕xf5 ♗xf4 24.♕xf4 ♗xd5 25.♗xa5 ♕e8 26.♕d4 1-0

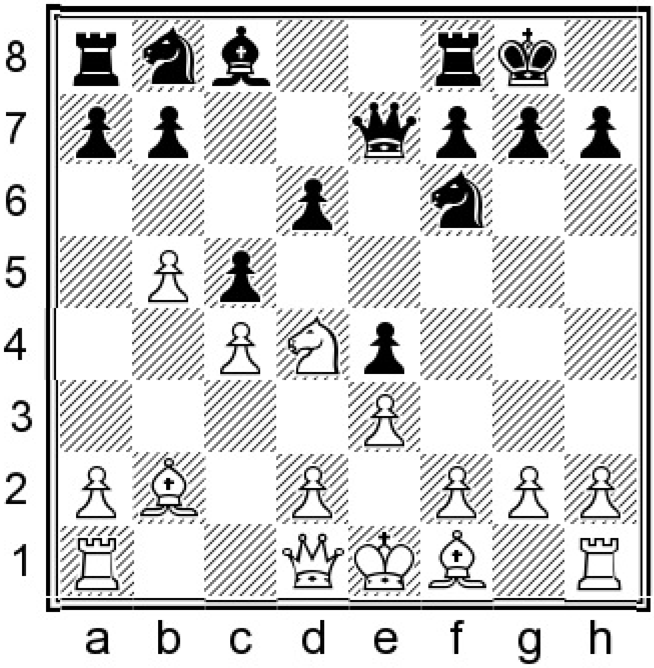
7. * A21**
Giri, Anish (2774) - Saric, Ivan (2665)
Terme Catez 150/7, 2021

1.c4 e5 2.♘c3 ♗b4 3.♘d5 ♗c5 4.e3 ♘f6 5.b4 ♗e7 6.♘xe7

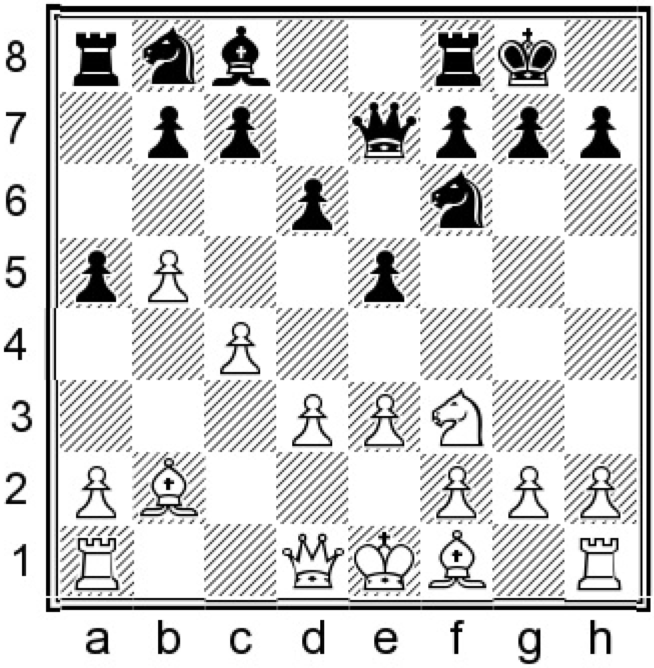
6.♗b2 - 145/6

6...♕xe7 7.♗b2

7.♘f3 O-O 8.♗b2 d6 (8...e4 9.♘d4 d6 10.b5 c5



11.♘e2N (11.bxc6) 11...♘bd7 12.♘g3 ♘e5 13.♗e2 a6 14.a4 ♗g4 15.f3 exf3 16.gxf3 ♗h3 17.♖g1 ♖fd8 18.♕c2 d5 19.cxd5 ♖xd5∞ Hoge, K-Ward,R corr 150/(7) 2021) 9.d3 a5 10.b5

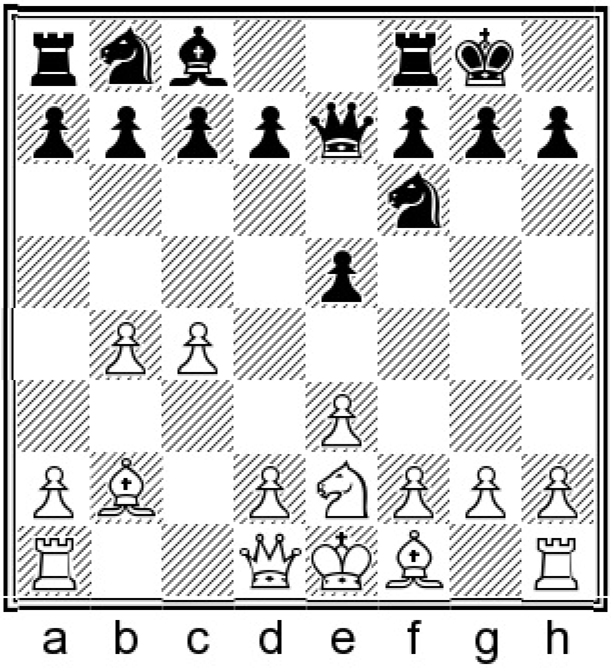


10...♗f5N (10...h6) 11.♘h4 ♗e6 12.♘f3 ♗f5 13.♗e2 h6 14.e4 ♗h7 15.a4 ♘bd7 16.O-O ♘c5 17.g3 c6 18.♖e1 ♘fd7 19.♘h4 ♕g5 20.♗g4 ♖fe8 21.♗a3± Woelfelschneider,P-Galiano Martinez,A corr 150/(7) 2021

7...O-O

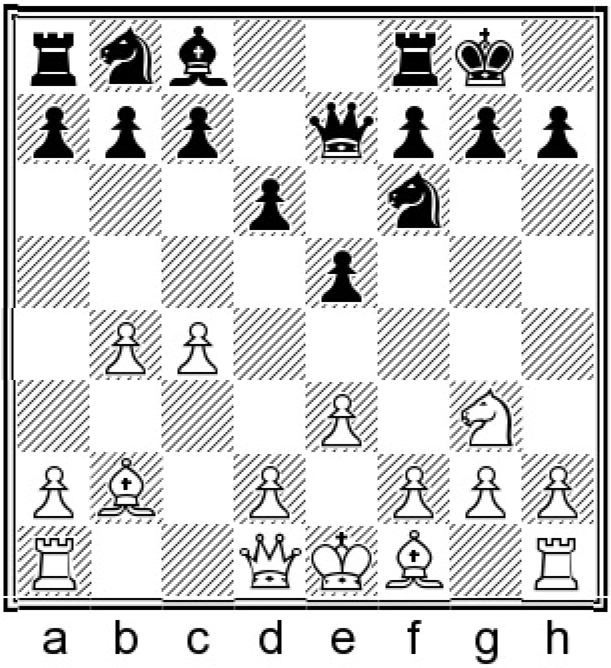
7...d6 8.a3 a5 9.♗e2 O-O 10.♘f3 ♗g4 11.O-O ♘bd7 12.h3 ♗h5 13.d3 ♖fe8∞

8.♘e2

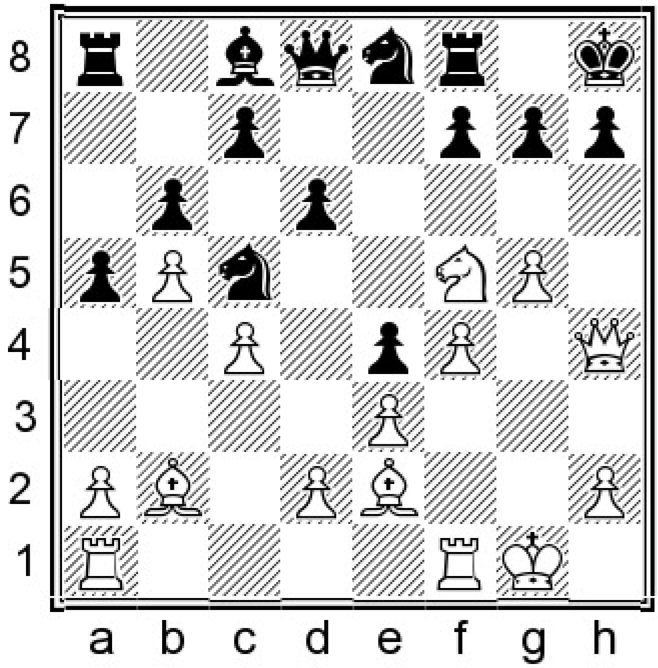


8...♖e8N

8...d6 - 150/(7) 9.♘g3



9...a5?!N (9...c5 10.bxc5 dxc5 11.♗e2 ♘c6 12.O-O±) 10.b5 b6?! (10...c6 11.♗e2±) 11.♗e2 ♗b7 12.O-O ♘bd7 13.f4 e4 14.♘f5 ♕d8 15.♕e1→ ♔h8 16.g4 ♘e8 17.g5 ♘c5 18.♕h4 ♗c8



19.♘xg7! ♘xg7 20.♕h6 ♖g8 21.f5+- Tabatabaei, M (2629)-Hakemi,A (2316) Iran (ch) 150/(7) 2021

8...d5

9.a3 a5 10.b5 c5?!

10...d6 11.♘g3 ♘bd7 12.♗d3 ♘c5 13.♗c2±

11.♘g3 d6 12.♗d3! ♘bd7 13.O-O ♘f8 14.f4↑ b6 15.♕c2 ♖a7 16.h3 ♘g6 17.fxe5 dxe5

17...♘xe5 18.♖f4 ∆ Raf1±

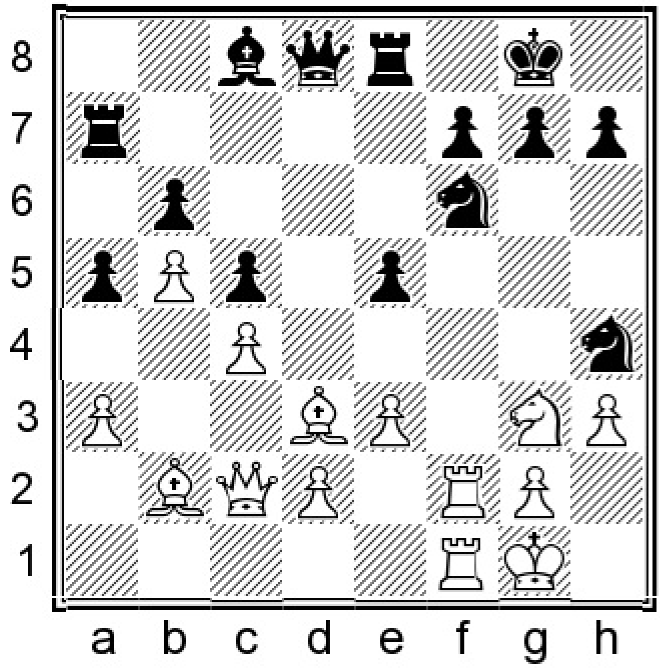
18.♖f2?!

18.♗f5 ♗e6 19.♗xe6 ♕xe6 20.d4!?↑

18...♕d8?

18...e4! 19.♗e2 ♕d6 20.♘f1 (20.♘f5 ♗xf5 21.♖xf5 ♕g3 22.♖xf6 gxf6 23.♗xf6 ♘h4 24.♗xh4 ♕xh4∓) 20...♘e5∞

19.♖af1 ♘h4



20.♖xf6! gxf6 21.♗xh7+ ♔f8 22.♗c3!?

22.♕e4 f5 23.♗xf5 ♕g5 (23...♗xf5 24.♘xf5 ♘xf5 25.♖xf5+-) 24.♗xe5+-

22...♗b7

22...♔g7 23.♘h5+ ♔f8 24.♘xf6 ♖e6 25.♘g4+-

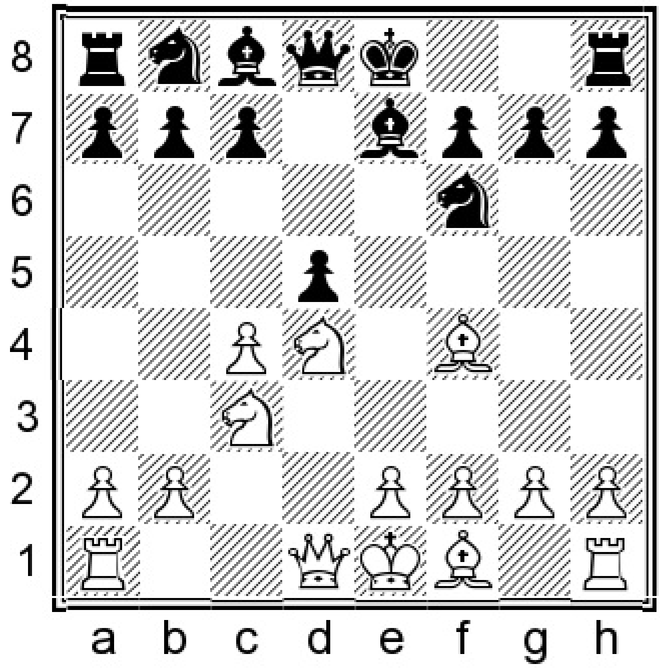
23.♗e4 ♗a8 24.♖f2 ♗xe4 25.♕xe4 ♘g6 26.h4 ♖e6 27.h5 ♘e7 28.♕h7 ♔e8 29.♘e4 f5 30.♘g5 ♔d7 31.♕xf7 ♖h6 32.♖xf5 ♕e8 33.g4 ♕xf7 34.♖xf7 ♖a8 35.♗xe5 ♖g8 36.♗g7 1-0

8. A21
Abdusattorov, Nodirbek (2646) - Ter Sahakyan, Samvel (2607)
Riga 150/8, 2021

1.c4 e5 2.♘c3 ♗b4 3.♘d5 ♗e7 4.♘f3 d6 5.d4 ♘f6

5...c6 - 83/(9)

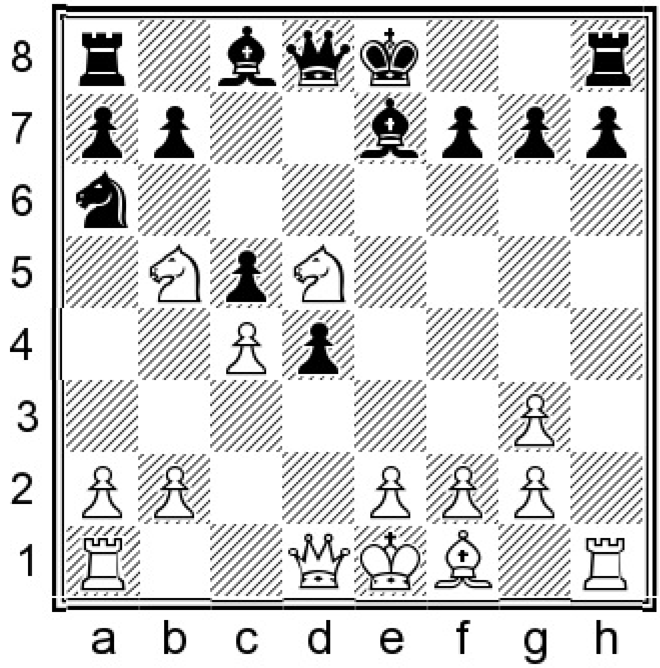
6.♘c3 exd4 7.♘xd4 d5 8.♗f4



8...♘h5N

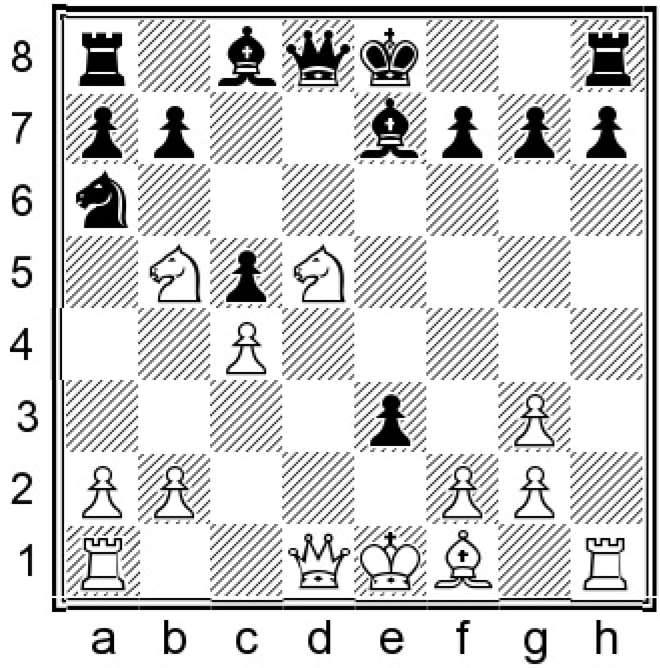
8...O-O

9.♗g3 c5!? 10.♘db5 ♘xg3 11.hxg3 d4 12.♘d5 ♘a6



13.♕a4?!

13.e4! dxe3



14.♕h5! exf2+ 15.♔xf2 ♗e6 16.♖e1↑

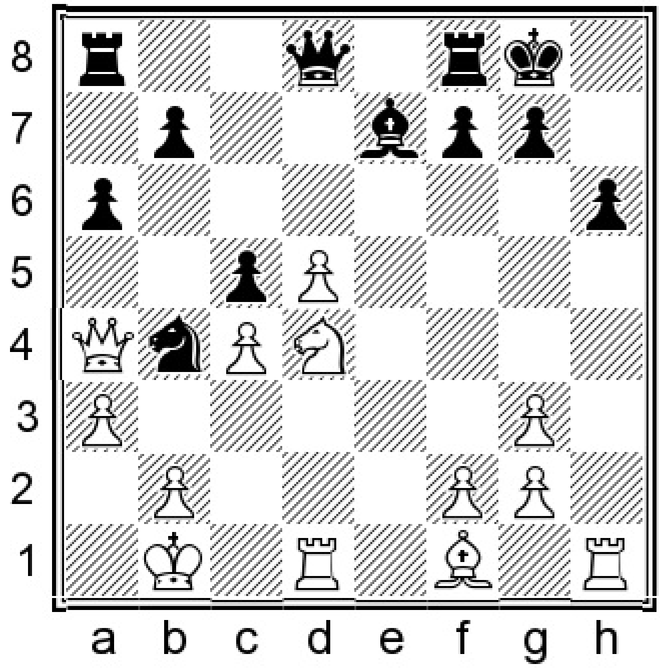
13...O-O 14.O-O-O ♗e6 15.e4 h6 16.♔b1 ♗xd5 17.exd5?!

17.cxd5 ♘b8 (17...♘b4?! 18.a3 a6 19.♘xd4 b5 20.♕b3 cxd4 21.axb4±) 18.f4 (18.e5 ♕xd5! 19.♘c7 ♕xe5 20.♘xa8 ♘c6 21.f4 ♕d6 22.♗c4 ♖xa8 23.♕b3∞) 18...a6 19.♘xd4! (19.e5 axb5 20.♕xa8 ♕xd5=∞) 19...cxd4 20.♕xd4↑

17...♘b4 18.a3?

18.♕b3 a6 19.♘a3 b5↑

18...a6! 19.♘xd4



19...b5! 20.♕b3

20.cxb5 axb5 21.♕xb5 ♖b8 22.♕c4 cxd4 23.axb4 ♖xb4 24.♕a2 ♕d7 25.♗c4 ♖fb8-+

20...bxc4 21.♗xc4 cxd4 22.axb4 ♖b8 23.♕d3 ♖xb4∓ 24.♖he1 ♗d6

⌓24...♗f6→ Δ a5-a4-a3

25.♖e2 ♕a5?!

25...a5→

26.b3 ♖fb8 27.♖b2 ♕b6

27...♕a3 28.♕c2=

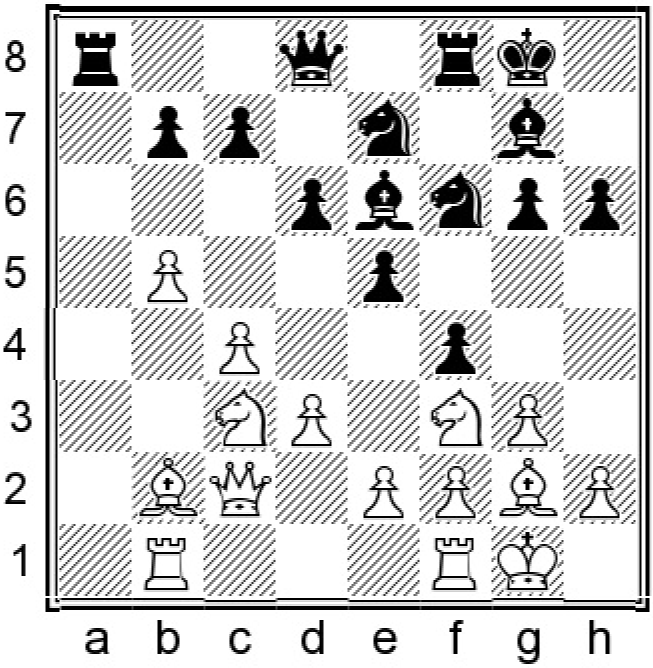
28.♗xa6 ♖xb3 29.♖xb3 ♕xb3+ 30.♕xb3 ♖xb3+ 31.♔c2 ♖a3 32.♗e2 1/2-1/2

9. A26
Szuhanek, Ranko (2437) - Aleksic, Milan (2248)
Srbija 150/9, 2021

1.♘f3 g6 2.c4 ♗g7 3.♘c3 e5 4.g3 ♘c6 5.♗g2 f5 6.d3 d6 7.O-O ♘f6 8.♖b1 a5 9.a3 h6 10.b4 axb4 11.axb4 O-O 12.b5 ♘e7 13.♗b2 ♗e6 14.♕c2

14.♖a1 - 66/(18)

14...f4



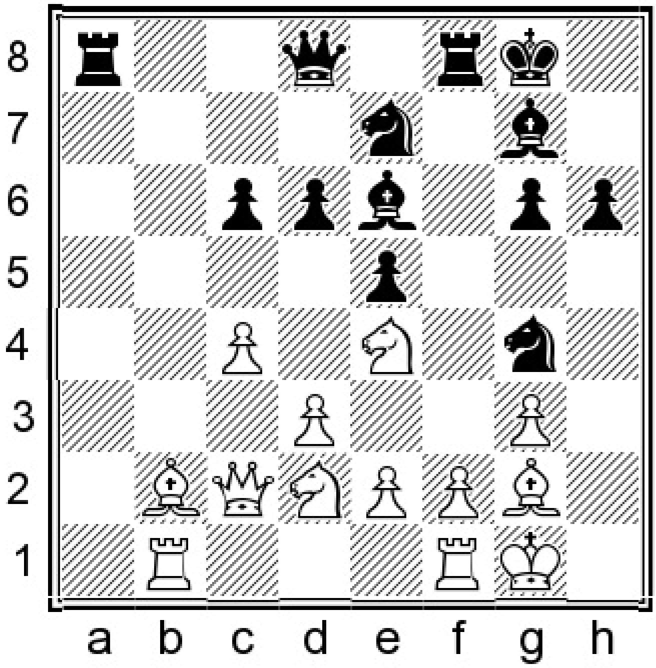
15.♘d2N

15.♖a1

15...fxg3?!

15...c6 16.♖a1 ♖c8 17.bxc6 bxc6 18.♖a7 ♘f5 19.♘ce4±; 15...♖b8 16.♘ce4 ♘xe4 17.♘xe4 ♕d7 (17...♘f5 18.♕d2 g5 19.e3 ♕d7 20.♕e2⇄) 18.♖a1 ♗h3 19.♖a7 g5 20.♖fa1 ♗xg2 21.♔xg2 g4 22.♔g1±

16.hxg3 c6 17.bxc6 bxc6 18.♘ce4± ♘g4



18...♘xe4 19.♘xe4 ♘f5 20.♗c3 ♘d4 21.♗xd4 exd4 22.♖b2 (22.♖b7 ♗c8 23.♖xg7+ ♔xg7 24.♕b2 d5 25.♕xd4+ ♔h7 26.cxd5 cxd5 27.♘c3 ♗e6 28.♖b1±) 22...d5 23.♘c5 ♗f7 24.♖b7 ♕d6 25.cxd5 cxd5 26.♗h3 ♖ab8 27.♖fb1 ♖xb7 28.♖xb7 ♖e8 29.♘d7 h5 30.♘b6±

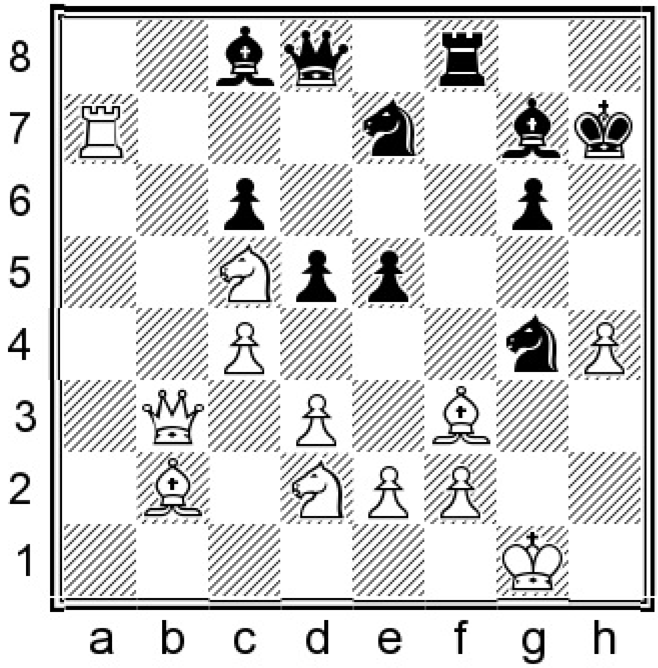
19.♗f3! d5?!

19...h5 20.♖a1 ♖xa1 21.♖xa1 ♕b8 22.♘g5 ♗d7 23.♘de4±; 19...♕c7 20.♗c3 ♖fd8 21.♖b2 ♖a7 22.♖fb1↑

20.♘c5± ♗c8 21.♕b3

21.cxd5 cxd5 22.e4 ♔h7 23.♕d1 ♕d6 (23...♕b6 24.♗a3 ♕c6 25.♗b4 ♘f6 26.d4!+-; 23...h5 24.exd5 ♘xd5 25.♕b3 ♖a5 26.♗xg4 hxg4 27.♘de4±) 24.♖c1 ♘f6 25.exd5 (25.d4 exd4 26.♗xd4 dxe4 27.♘c4 ♕c6 28.♘xe4 ♘xe4 29.♘b6 ♘xf2! 30.♗xf2 ♕xf3 31.♕xf3 ♖xf3 32.♘xa8 ♗h3 33.♖fe1 ♘f5=) 25...♘fxd5 26.♗g2 ♕b6 27.♖c2 ♗f5 28.♘ce4 ♕e6 29.♘c4±

21...♔h7 22.♖a1 ♖xa1 23.♖xa1 h5 24.♖a7 h4 25.gxh4?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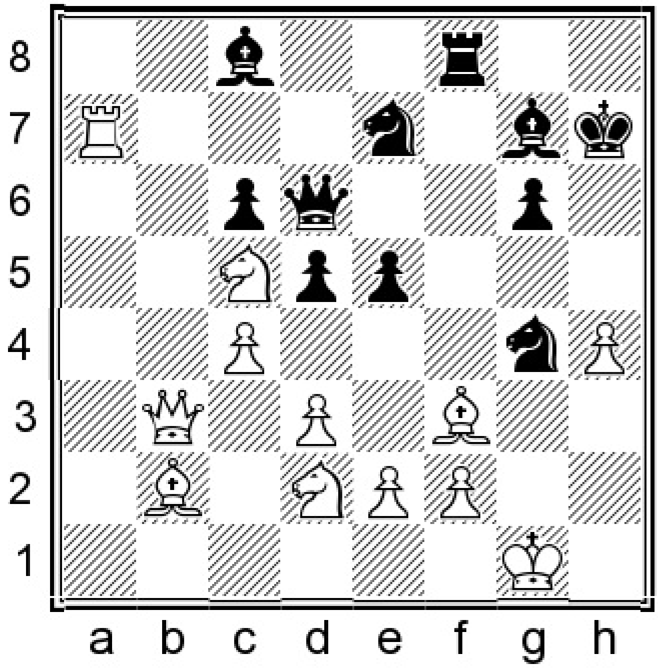
25.♕b8 hxg3 26.fxg3 ♗f6 27.♗xg4 ♗xg4 28.♕xd8 ♖xd8 29.cxd5 cxd5 30.♗xe5 ♗xe5 31.♖xe7+ ♗g7 32.♘e6 ♗xe6 33.♖xe6+-

25...♕d6?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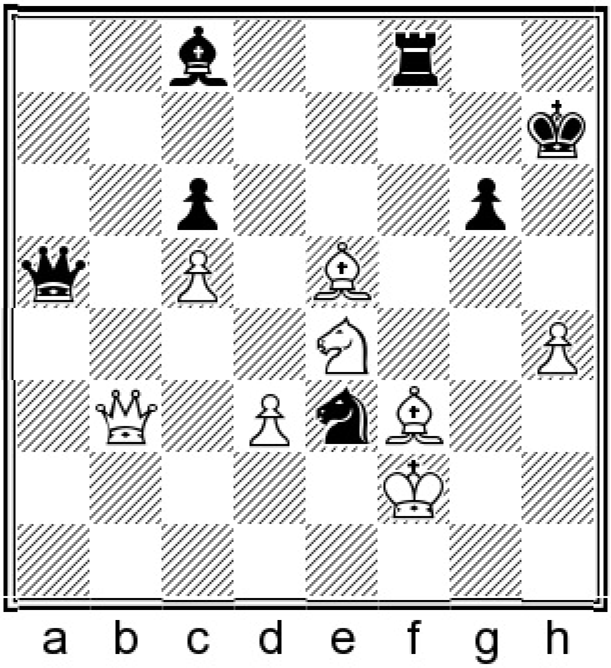
25...♘xf2! 26.♔xf2 ♘f5 27.♖xg7+ ♔h6 (27...♔xg7 28.♗xe5+ ♔g8 29.e3 ♕a5 30.♘ce4 dxe4 31.c5+ ♔h7 32.♘xe4 ♘xe3



(32...♘xh4 33.♘f6+ ♔h6 34.♘g8+ ♔h7 35.♘f6+=) 33.♗d6!! (33.♔xe3? ♕e1+ 34.♗e2 ♕c1+ 35.♔d4 ♕a1+ 36.♘c3 ♕g1+-+) 33...♖f5 34.♘g5+ ♔h6 35.♔e2 ♘d5 36.♕b2 ♕d8 37.♔f2 ♕f6 38.♕xf6 ♖xf6 39.♘e4 ♖f7 40.♔g3 ♖a7 41.♘g5 ♔g7 42.♗xd5 cxd5 43.♔f4 ♔f6 44.♗e5+ ♔e7 45.♗d6+ ♔f6 46.♗e5+=) 28.♘f1 ♕xh4+ 29.♔g1 ♘d4 30.♗xd4 ♕xd4+ 31.♔g2 ♔xg7 32.♕b6 ♕h4 33.♕c7+ ♔g8 34.♕xc6 ♗h3+ 35.♔g1 ♕g5+ 36.♔f2 e4 37.♕xd5+ ♕xd5 38.cxd5 exf3 39.e4 ♗xf1 40.♔xf1 ♔f7 41.♔f2 ♔e7 42.e5 ♖f5 43.d6+ ♔e8 44.d4 g5 45.e6 ♖d5 46.♘b7 ♖xd4 47.d7+ ♔e7 48.♔e3 ♖d1 49.♔xf3 ♖d4 50.d8=Q+=

26.♕a3?!

26.♘de4!! dxe4 27.♘xe4 ♕d8 28.♗a3 c5 (28...♖e8 29.♘g5+ ♔g8 30.♗xe7 ♖xe7 31.c5+ ♔h8 32.♘f7+ ♖xf7 33.♕xf7 ♕f6 34.♕xf6 ♗xf6 35.♖a8+-; 28...♘xf2 29.♗xe7 ♕d4 30.♗c5 ♘h3+ 31.♔h1 ♕d8 32.♗xf8 ♕xf8 33.♕b8+-) 29.♗xc5 ♖xf3 30.♘g5+ ♔g8 31.exf3 ♘c6 32.♗b6 ♕e8 33.♖c7+-

26...e4

26...♕f6 27.♘ce4 dxe4 28.♘xe4 ♕xh4 29.♕xe7 ♕xe7 30.♖xe7 ♔h8 31.♘d6+-

27.♘cxe4 ♕h2+ 28.♔f1 dxe4 29.♘xe4 ♘e3+ 30.fxe3 ♕h1+

30...♖xf3+ 31.exf3 ♗h3+ 32.♔e1 ♕xb2 33.♕xb2 ♗xb2 34.♖xe7++-

31.♔f2 ♕xh4+ 32.♘g3

32.♔g2 ♗h3+ 33.♔g1 ♖f7 34.♗xg7 ♔xg7 35.♕a5 ♗f5 36.♕e5+ ♔h7 37.♘g3+-

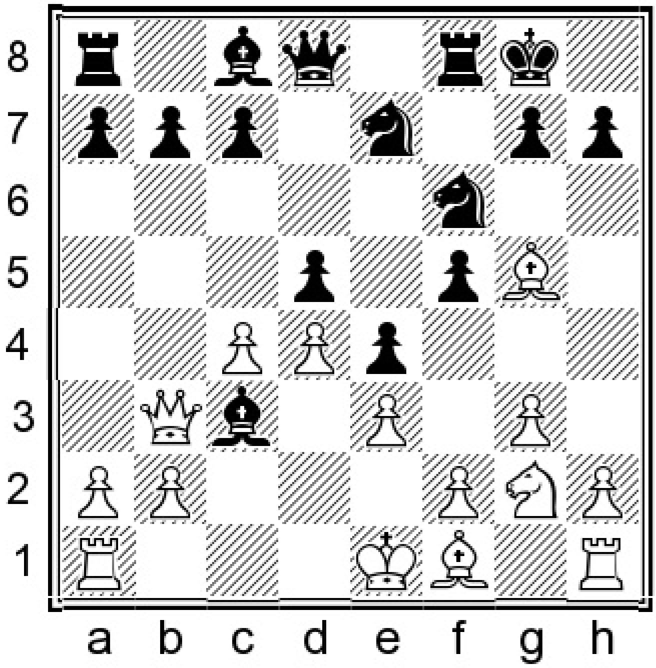
32...♖f7 33.♗xg7 ♖xg7 34.♕d6 ♘f5 35.♖xg7+ ♔xg7 36.♕c7+ 1-0

10. A27
Puranik, Abhimanyu Sameer (2568) - Bharath, Subramaniyam H (2435)
Plovdiv 150/10, 2021

1.c4 e5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.♘f3 f5 4.g3 ♘f6 5.d4 e4 6.♘h4 d5 7.♗g5 ♗b4 8.e3

8.cxd5 - 141/9

8...O-O 9.♘g2 ♘e7 10.♕b3 ♗xc3+



11.♕xc3N

11.bxc3 h6 12.♗xf6 ♖xf6 13.♘f4 (13.h4 ♗e6 14.h5 ♗f7 15.♘f4 ♖b6 16.♕a4 ♖a6 17.♕b3 ♖b6=) 13...♖b6 14.♕c2±

11...h6 12.♗xf6 ♖xf6 13.♘f4 ♗e6 14.h4 ♗f7 15.h5 c5!? 16.dxc5 ♖c8 17.b4

17.cxd5!? ♘xd5 18.♘xd5 ♕xd5 19.b4 b6 20.♗a6 ♖c7 21.O-O bxc5 22.♖fd1 ♕c6 (22...♕e6 23.♗e2±) 23.♗c4 cxb4 24.♗xf7+ ♖fxf7 25.♕xb4±

17...b6 18.cxb6

18.cxd5 bxc5 (18...♘xd5 19.♘xd5 ♕xd5± - 17.cd5) 19.♗c4 cxb4 20.♕xb4±

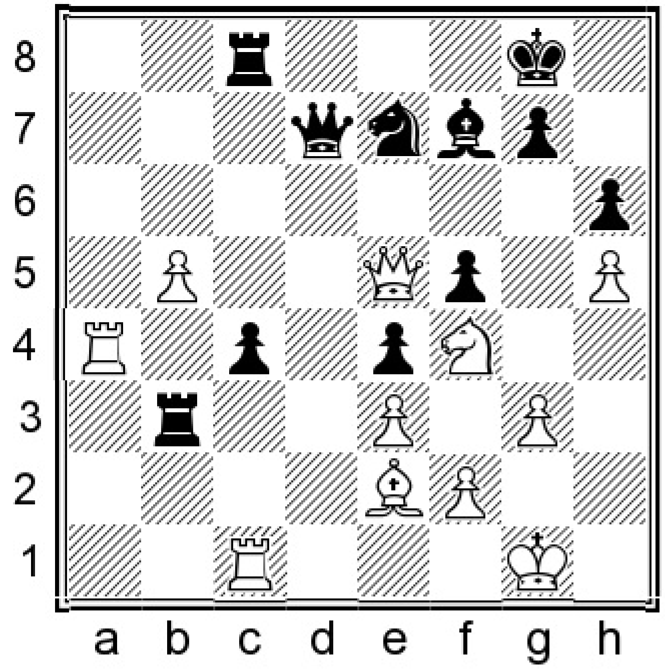
18...axb6 19.♗e2 dxc4 20.O-O ♖d6 21.♖fc1 b5 22.a4 bxa4 23.♖xa4 ♖d3

23...♘d5 24.♘xd5 ♖xd5 25.♖a5±

24.♕e5

24.♗xd3 cxd3 25.♕d2 ♖xc1+ 26.♕xc1 d2 (26...♗b3? 27.♕b2 ♗xa4 28.♘e6+-) 27.♕d1 ♔h7 28.♖a1 ♘c6 29.♖b1 ♘e5 30.♔g2 ♘c4 31.b5 ♘a3 32.♖b2 ♘c4 33.♖b4 (33.♖b1=) 33...♕a5 34.♖a4 ♕c3 35.♖a8 ♘b2 36.♘g6 ♗xg6 37.hxg6+ ♔xg6 38.♖a6+ ♔h7 39.♕h5 ♕c8□ 40.♖d6 (40.♖a1 ♕d7) 40...♘d3 41.b6 ♘e1+ 42.♔f1 ♘f3 43.♔g2 ♘e1+ 44.♔f1 ♘f3=

24...♕d7 25.b5 ♖b3



25...♖d2 26.♖ca1

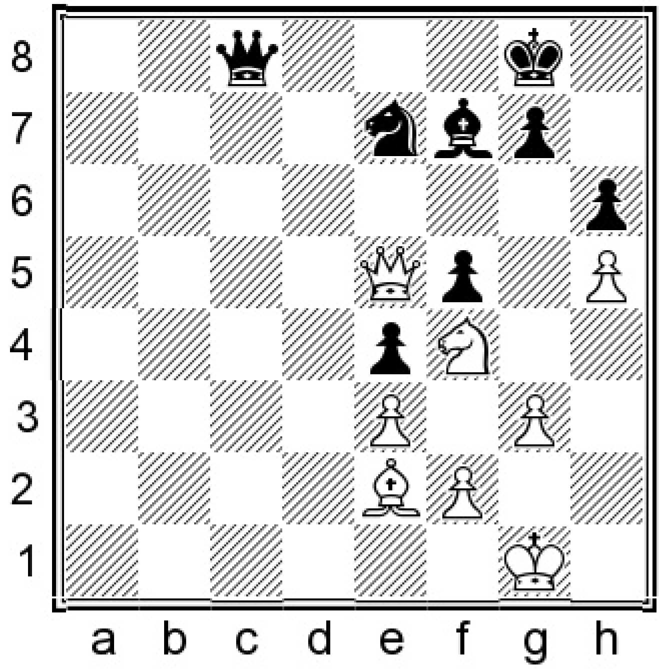
26.♖cxc4

26.♘g6! ♗xg6 (26...♘xg6 27.hxg6 ♗e6 28.♗xc4+-) 27.hxg6 ♘xg6 (27...♖xb5 28.♗xc4+ ♔f8 (28...♖xc4 29.♖a8+! ♘c8 30.♖xc8+ (30.♖xc4? ♕d1+ 31.♔g2 ♕f3+ 32.♔h2 ♕h5+=) 30...♖xc8 31.♖xc8+ ♕xc8 32.♕xb5+-; 28...♔h8 29.♗xb5 ♖xc1+ 30.♔g2 ♘xg6 31.♖a8+ ♔h7 32.♗xd7 ♘xe5 33.♗xf5+ g6 34.♖a7+ ♔h8 35.♖e7 ♖c5 (35...♘c6 36.♖e8+ ♔g7 37.♗xe4+-) 36.♗xe4+-) 29.♗xb5 ♖xc1+ 30.♔h2 ♖h1+ 31.♔xh1 ♕d1+ 32.♔g2 ♕f3+ 33.♔g1 ♕d1+ 34.♗f1 ♕xa4 35.♔g2 ♕e8 36.♗b5 ♕d8 37.♗a4 ♔g8 38.♗b3+ ♔h8 39.♕e6+-) 28.♕a1 ♖xb5 29.♗xc4+ ♖xc4 30.♖axc4 ♖b7 31.♖d4 ♕f7 32.♖c5±

26...♖xc4 27.♖xc4 ♖xb5 28.♕a1 ♖b8 29.♖c5

29.♖d4 ♕c7 30.♕d1 ♖b7 31.♖d8+ ♔h7 32.♖f8 ♗b3 33.♕d4±

29...♖c8 30.♖a5 ♕d2 31.♖a8 ♕d8 32.♖xc8 ♕xc8 33.♕e5



33.♕d4±

33...♕d7

33...g5! 34.hxg6 (34.♕xe7 gxf4 35.gxf4 ♕c1+ 36.♔g2 ♕d2 37.♗b5 (37.♗c4 ♗xc4 38.♕e8+ ♔h7 39.♕g6+ ♔h8 40.♕xh6+ ♔g8 41.♕g6+ ♔h8 42.♕xf5 ♕d1=) 37...♕d1=) 34...♘xg6 35.♘xg6 ♗xg6±

34.g4 fxg4 35.♕xe4 g3 36.fxg3 ♘d5 37.♕e5

37.♗c4 ♘xf4 38.exf4 ♗xc4 39.♕xc4+ ♔f8±

37...♘f6 38.♕b8+ ♗e8 39.♗c4+ ♔h7 40.♗d3+ ♔g8 41.♕b3+ ♗f7 42.♗c4 ♗xc4 43.♕xc4+ ♔h7= 44.♕c2+ ♔g8 45.♕e2 ♕f5 46.♔g2 ♕e4+ 47.♔f2 ♕h1 48.♕c4+ ♔h7 49.♕d3+ ♔g8 50.♔e2 ♕h2+ 51.♔f3 ♕h1+ 52.♔e2 ♕h2+ 53.♔d1 ♕xg3 54.♔c2 ♕f3 55.♕c4+ ♔h7 56.♕d3+ ♔g8 57.♕c4+ 1/2-1/2

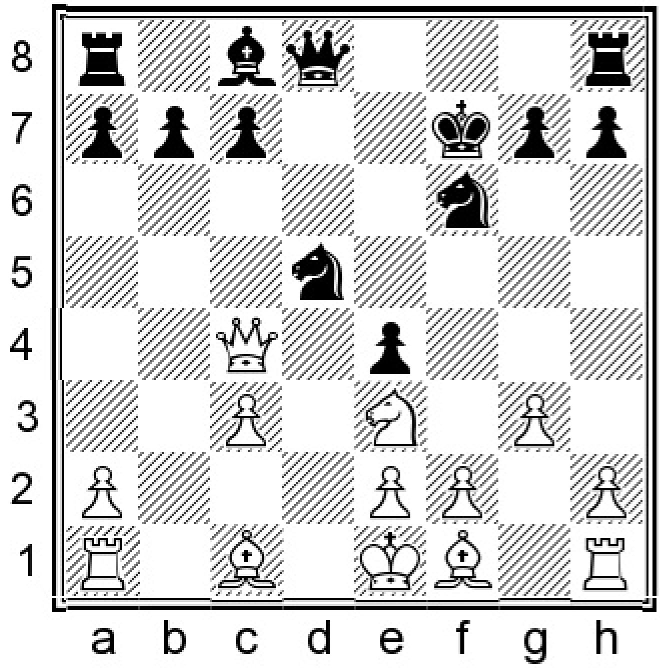
11. A27
Abdusattorov, Nodirbek (2646) - Kuybokarov, Temur (2549)
Riga 150/11, 2021

1.c4 e5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.♘f3 f5 4.g3 ♘f6 5.d4 e4 6.♘h4 ♗b4

6...g6 - 127/14

6...d5 7.♗g5 ♗b4 8.cxd5 ♘xd5!! 9.♗xd8 ♘xc3 10.♕b3 ♘xe2+ 11.♔d1 ♘exd4 12.♕e3 ♗e6!=∞ - 141/9

7.♘xf5 d5 8.♘e3 dxc4 9.d5 ♗xc3+ 10.bxc3 ♘e7 11.♕a4+ ♔f7 12.♕xc4 ♘exd5



13.♕b3N

13.♘xd5 ♕xd5 14.♕xc7+ ♗d7∞

13...♗e6 14.c4 ♘xe3 15.♗xe3 ♕d7

15...b6 16.♗g2 ♖f8 17.O-O ♔g8∞

16.♗g2 a6 17.♕c3 ♗h3 18.O-O ♖ad8 19.♖ab1 b6 20.c5

20.♕b3 ♔g6 21.♖fd1 ♕e6 22.a4±

20...b5 21.c6 ♕e6 22.♕a5 ♗xg2 23.♔xg2 ♘d5 24.♕xa6 b4 25.♖bd1 ♖d6 26.♕a5 ♖c8 27.♖d4 ♕f5?

27...♔g6 28.♖fd1 ♖cd8∞

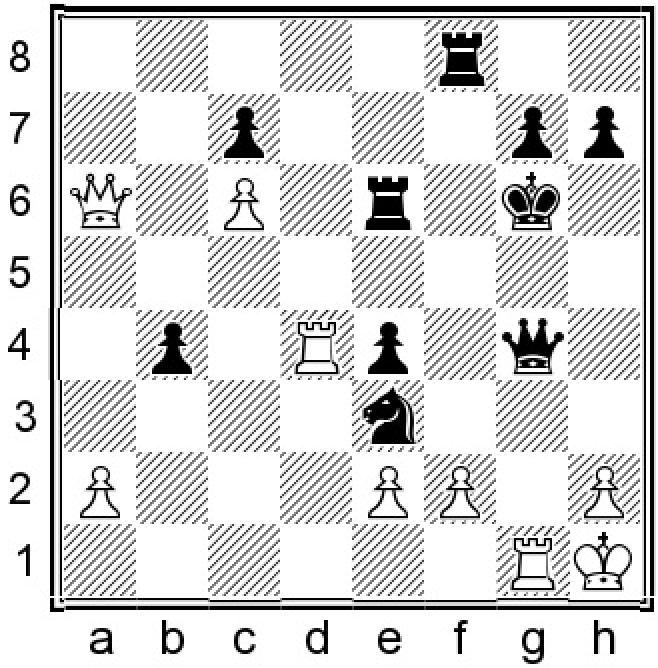
28.♔g1! ♔g6 29.♕a6?

29.♖fd1 ♘xe3 30.♖xd6+ cxd6 31.♖xd6+ ♔h5 32.♕a7!→ ×Kh5 32...♕e5 (32...♘c4 33.h3!+-) 33.♕f7+ ♔g5 34.h4+ ♔g4 35.♕d7+ ♕f5 36.fxe3 ♕xd7 37.cxd7 ♖d8 38.♔g2 ♔f5 39.♔h3 ♔e5 40.♖d4+-

29...♖f8 30.♖c1 ♖e6 31.g4?

31.♖xd5! ♕xd5 32.♖c5 ♕d1+ 33.♔g2 h6 34.♕c4↑

31...♕xg4+ 32.♔h1 ♘xe3 33.♖g1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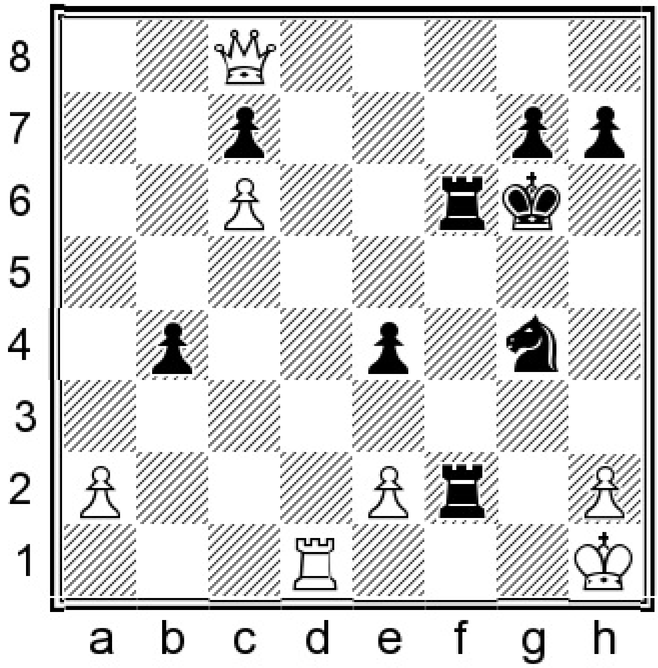
33...♖xf2?

33...♕xg1+!! 34.♔xg1 ♔h6! 35.f3 (35.fxe3 ♖g6+ 36.♔h1 ♖f1#) 35...exf3 36.exf3 ♖xf3 37.♖h4+ ♔g5 38.♖xb4 ♖ef6 39.♖b1 (39.♕b5+ ♖6f5-+) 39...♖f1+ 40.♖xf1 ♖xf1+ 41.♕xf1 ♘xf1 42.♔xf1 ♔f4 43.a4 ♔e4 44.a5 ♔d5 45.a6 ♔xc6-+

34.♖xg4+ ♘xg4 35.♖d1

35.♕c8 ♖f1+ 36.♔g2 ♘e3+ 37.♔h3 ♖e5 38.♕xc7 ♖h5+ 39.♔g3 ♖g5+ 40.♔h3=

35...♖ef6 36.♕c8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36...h5?

36...♔h5!! 37.h3 (37.♕xc7 ♖xe2! 38.♕xg7 (38.♖d5+ ♔h6 39.♖d6 ♘f2+ 40.♔g1 (40.♔g2 ♘d3+! 41.♔g1 (41.♔g3 ♖e3+ 42.♔g2 ♘f4+ 43.♔g1 ♖e1+ 44.♔f2 ♘e6+-+) 41...♖e1+ 42.♔g2 ♘f4+-+) 40...♘h3+ 41.♔h1 ♖e1+ 42.♔g2 ♘f4+ 43.♔f2 (43.♔g3 ♖g1+ 44.♔f2 ♘e6+-+) 43...♘e6+-+) 38...♘f2+ 39.♔g1 ♖g6+ 40.♔f1 ♖xg7 41.♖d5+ ♔h4 42.♔xe2 ♘g4-+; 37.♕e8+ ♔h6 38.♕xe4 ♖2f4! 39.♕g2 (39.♕e7 ♘f2+ 40.♔g1 ♖g6+ 41.♔f1 ♘d3#) 39...♘f2+ 40.♔g1 ♘xd1-+) 37...♖h2+ 38.♔g1 ♖xh3 39.♕xc7 ♖g6! 40.♖d5+ ♔h4 41.♕f4 ♖xc6 42.♕g5+ ♔g3-+

37.♕xc7 ♖xe2 38.♖d6 ♘f2+ 39.♔g2 ♘g4+ 40.♔g3 ♖e3+ 41.♔g2 ♖e2+ 42.♔g3 ♖e3+ 43.♔g2 ♖e2+ 44.♔g3 ♖e3+ 1/2-1/2

12. A28
Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2639) - Pein, Malcolm (2309)
Reykjavik 150/12, 2021

1.c4 ♘f6 2.♘c3 e5 3.♘f3 ♘c6 4.e4 ♗b4

4...♗c5 - 145/11

5.d3 ♗xc3+

5...d6 6.a3 ♗c5 (6...♗xc3+ - 125/8) 7.b4 ♗b6 8.♘a4 ♗d4 (8...♗g4 - 126/ (14)) 9.♘xd4 (9.♖b1 a6 10.b5 ♘e7 11.♘xd4 exd4 12.b6 c5 13.♗e2 O-O 14.O-O ♗d7 15.f4 ♗c6 Δ Nd7∞) 9...♘xd4 10.♘c3 a5 11.b5 a4!? (11...c6 12.a4 O-O 13.♘e2 Δ♘xe2 14.♗xe2 d5 15.exd5 cxd5 16.♗b2±) 12.♗e2 (12.♘xa4 c6 13.♘c3 d5⯹) 12...♘d7 13.O-O ♘c5 14.f4 O-O 15.f5 ♘cb3 16.♖a2 c6 17.♗e3 ♕a5 18.♕e1 f6⇄

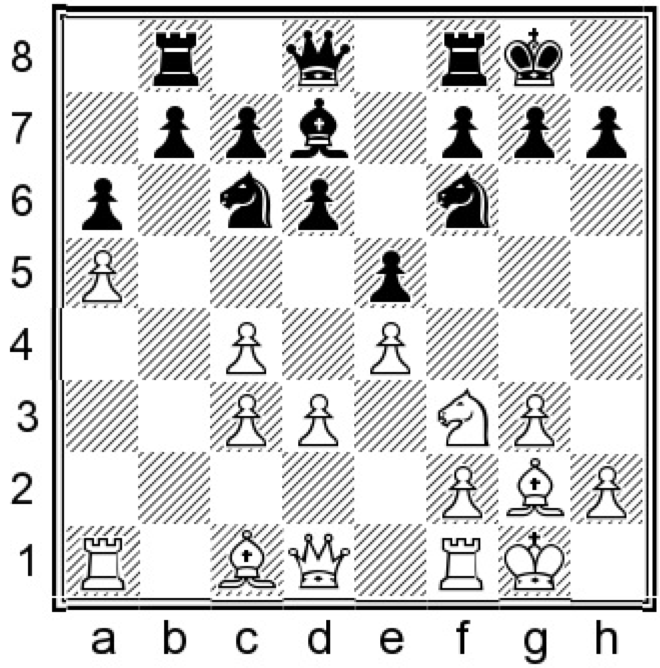
6.bxc3 d6 7.g3 O-O 8.♗g2 a6 9.a4 ♗d7

9...♘d7 10.O-O ♘c5 11.♘h4 (11.a5!?) 11...♘a5 (11...b6 - 126/13) 12.♗e3 ♗d7 13.f4 (13.d4 ♘e6 14.c5!?) 13...f6 14.d4!? (14.fxe5 fxe5 15.♘f5 ♔h8 16.♖a2 Δ Raf2↑ - 73/28) 14...♘xc4 15.♗f2⯹

10.O-O ♖b8

10...♕c8 11.♗g5 ♘e8 (11...♘h5 12.♘h4 ♗g4 13.f3 ♗e6 14.♖b1 ♖b8 15.♗e3 h6 16.♘f5 ♕d7 17.f4±) 12.♘h4 ♗h3 13.♘f5! ♗xg2 (13...♗xf5 14.exf5 h6 15.♗h4 ♕xf5 16.♗xc6 bxc6 17.♗e7 ♘f6 18.♗xf8 ♖xf8 19.♖b1±) 14.♔xg2 f6 15.♗d2 g6 16.♘h6+ ♔g7 17.g4↑

11.a5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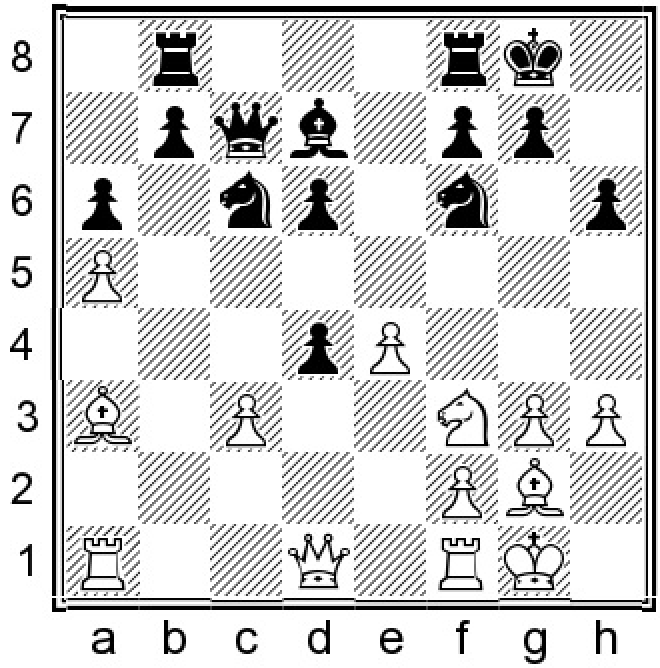
11...♘e7N

11...h6 12.h3 ♘e7 13.c5 ♘c6 14.cxd6 cxd6 15.♗a3± Δ♕c7 16.d4 exd4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17.cxd4! (17.♘xd4 ♖bd8 (17...♘xa5 18.♘f5↑) 18.♕d2 ♖fe8∞) 17...♖fe8 (17...♘xe4 18.♕c2 ♘f6 19.d5! ♘xd5 20.♖fd1 ♗e6 21.♘e1±) 18.e5 dxe5 19.dxe5 ♘e4 20.♕c2 ♗f5 21.♖fe1! ♘xg3 22.♕b2 ♘e4 23.♘h4 ♗xh3 24.♗xh3 ♘g5 25.♗g2 ♘xe5 26.♕c1! ♕d7 27.♕f4 ♘d3 28.♖xe8+ ♖xe8 29.♕d6 ♘h3+ 30.♔h2 ♕xd6+ 31.♗xd6 ♘hxf2 32.♗xb7±; 11...♕c8 12.♗g5 ♘e8 13.♘h4 ♗h3 14.♖a2!? h6 15.♗e3 ♘f6 16.f4±

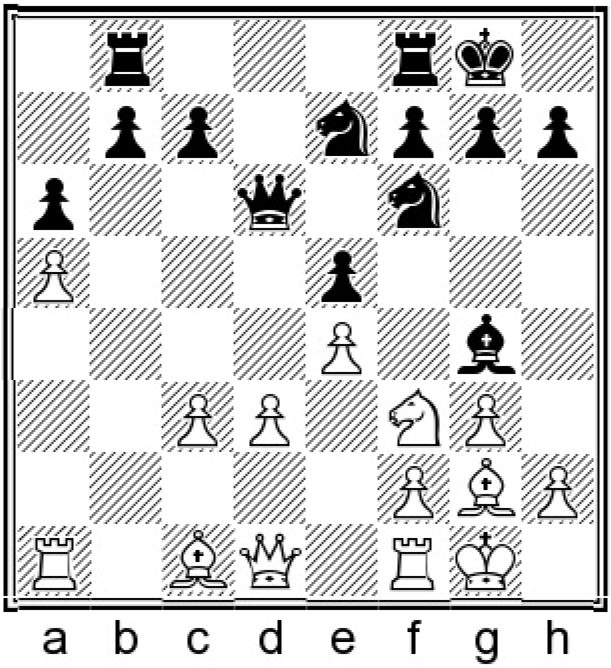
12.c5!?

12.h3 ♗e6 (12...h6 13.c5 - 11...h6; 12...♘g6 13.♗e3±) 13.♘g5 ♗d7 14.f4 h6 15.♘f3 exf4 16.gxf4 ♖e8 17.f5↑

12...♗g4

12...♘c6 13.cxd6 cxd6 14.♕a4!? (14.♗a3 ♗g4 15.h3 ♗xf3 16.♕xf3 ♘xa5 17.♖fb1 ♘c6∞) 14...♘d4 (14...d5 15.exd5 ♘xd5 16.♗b2 ♖e8 17.♕a3±) 15.♕a2 ♘xf3+ 16.♗xf3 ♗e6 (16...♗c6 17.♗a3±) 17.c4 ♘d7 18.♗e3 ♘c5 19.♕a3±

13.cxd6 ♕xd6



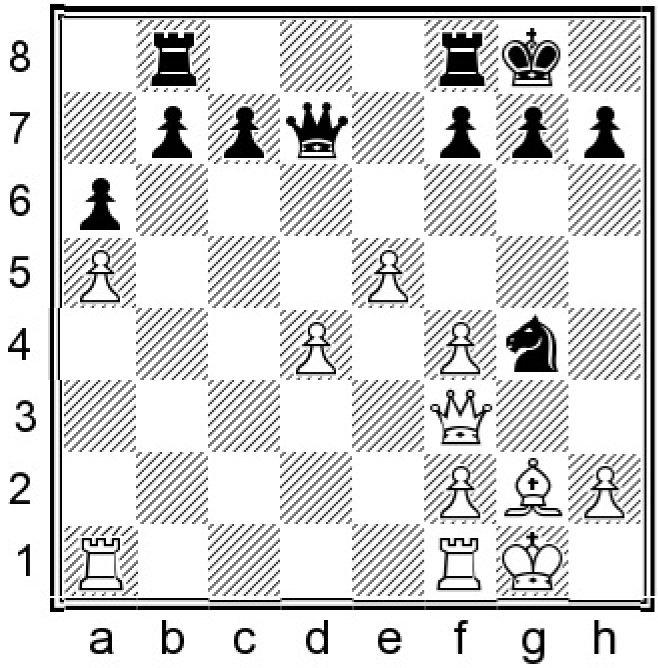
⌓13...cxd6 14.h3 ♗xf3 15.♕xf3 ♘d7 16.♗a3 Δ d4±

14.d4! ♗xf3

14...♘xe4 15.♕e1! ♗xf3 16.♗xf3 f5 17.♗a3 ♕e6 18.♗xe4 fxe4 19.♗xe7 ♕xe7 20.♕xe4 ♖be8 21.♕xb7 ♕d6 22.♖a4! ♖e7 23.♖c4 exd4 24.cxd4 ♖ef7 25.♕e4±

15.♕xf3 ♖fe8

15...exd4 16.♗f4 ♕d7 17.cxd4 ♘g6 18.e5! ♘xf4 19.gxf4 ♘e8 (19...♘g4



20.e6! ♕xe6 21.f5 ♘xh2 22.♕f4+-) 20.d5±

16.♗a3± ♕e6 17.d5 ♕d7 18.c4 ♘c8 19.c5 ♘a7 20.♗b2 ♘b5 21.♕d3 ♕e7 22.♖ac1 ♘d7 23.♕e3 c6 24.♗h3 ♘f8 25.d6+- ♕d8

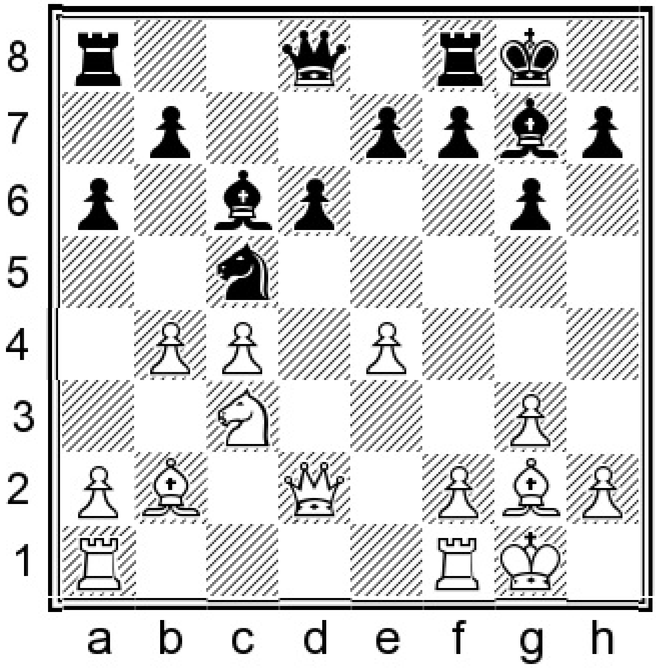
25...♕f6 26.♕d3 ♘e6 27.♗f5 ♘bd4 28.f4 ♘xc5 29.♖xc5 ♕xd6 30.♖xe5 ♘xf5 31.♕c3+-

26.f4 exf4 27.♕xf4 f6 28.e5 1-0

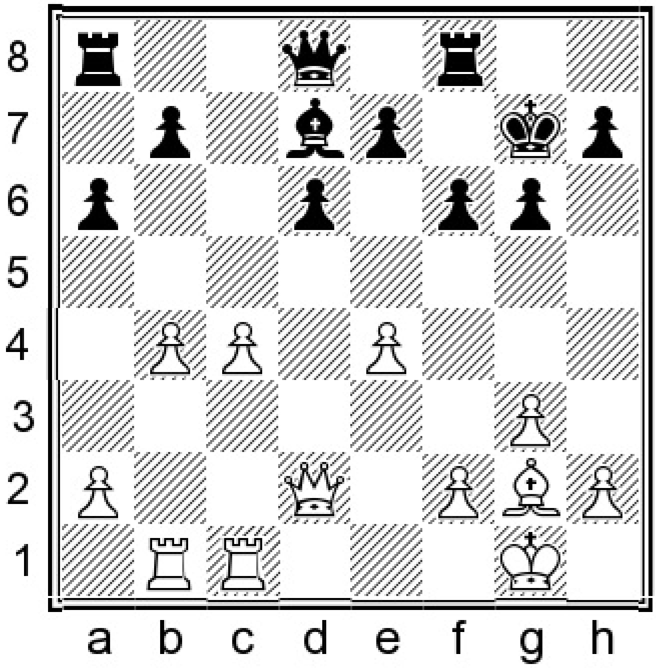
13. * A39
Erigaisi, Arjun (2626) - Fier, Alexandr (2564)
chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/13, 2021

1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.♘c3 ♘c6 4.g3 g6 5.♗g2 ♗g7 6.d4 cxd4 7.♘xd4 O-O 8.O-O d6

8...♘xd4 9.♕xd4 d6 10.♕d3 ♘d7 11.b3 ♘c5 12.♕d2 ♗d7 13.♗b2 ♗c6 (13...a5 - 12/68) 14.e4 a6 15.b4!



15...♘a4N (15...♘e6) 16.♘xa4 ♗xa4 17.♗xg7 ♔xg7 18.♖fc1 (18.b5? axb5 19.cxb5 ♕a5 20.♕b2+ e5 21.♖fb1 ♖fc8-+) 18...f6 19.♖ab1 ♗d7?!

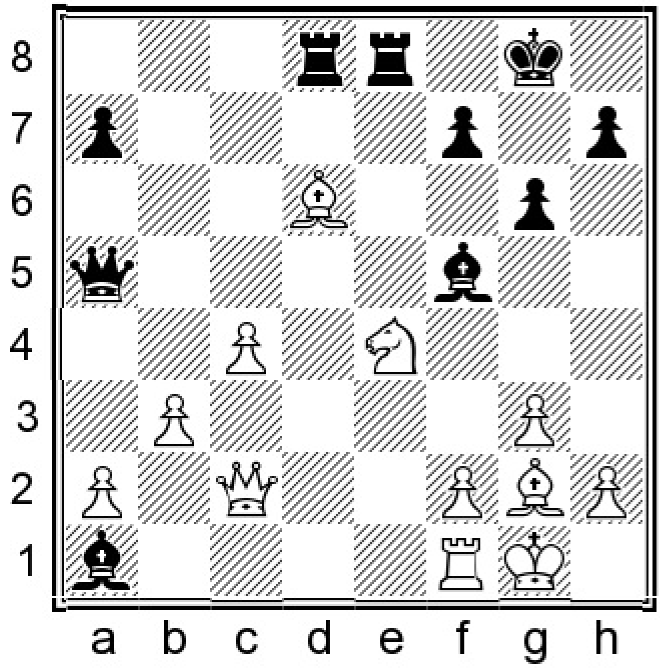


(19...♕d7 20.♖c3 ♖fc8 21.h4±) 20.e5! ♗c6 21.♗xc6 (21.exd6 ♗xg2 22.♔xg2 ♕xd6 23.♕xd6 exd6 24.♖d1 ♖ac8 25.♖d4 ♖f7 26.a4 ♖c6 27.b5 ♖c5 28.bxa6 bxa6 29.♖xd6 ♖xc4 30.♖xa6 ♖c2 31.♖b5±) 21...bxc6 22.exd6 ♕xd6 23.♕e3± Szuhanek,R (2437) -Jovanovic,B (2213) Srbija 150/(13) 2021

9.♘xc6 bxc6 10.♗xc6 ♖b8 11.♗g2 ♕a5 12.♕c2 ♗f5

12...♗e6 - 110/25

13.e4 ♗e6 14.b3 ♘xe4 15.♘xe4 ♗xa1 16.♗g5 ♗f5 17.♗xe7 ♖fe8 18.♗xd6 ♖bd8



19.c5?!N

19.♖xa1; 19.b4

19...♗g7?

19...♗e5! 20.♗xe5 ♖xe5 21.c6 ♗xe4 22.♗xe4 ♖c5 23.♕b1 (23.♕e2 ♖d2 24.♕e3 ♕c3 25.♕xc3 ♖xc3 26.a3 f5 27.♗g2 ♔f7-+) 23...♕b4 24.♕e1 a5 25.♗f3 ♖d3 26.♔g2 ♔g7∓

20.♖c1

20.♕c4 ♗e6 21.♕c2 ♗f5=

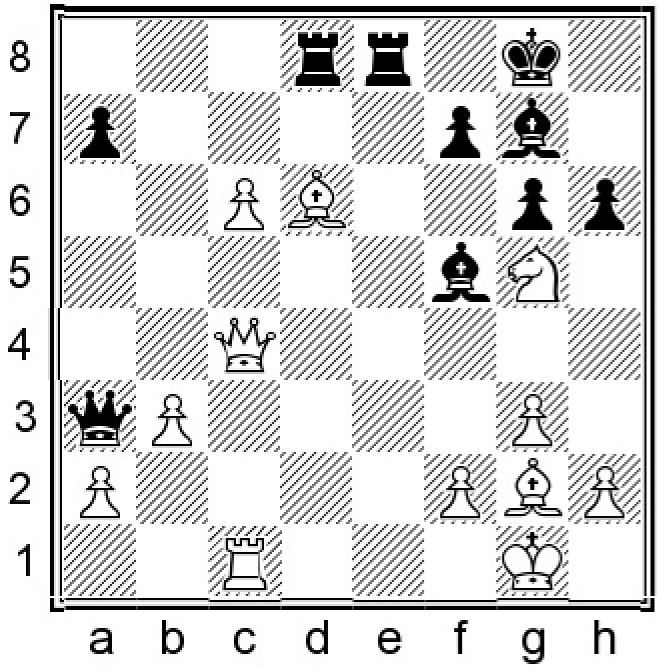
20...♕b4?

20...♕a3! 21.f3 ♖e6 22.♕c4 ♕xa2 23.h4 a5∓

21.♕c4 ♕a3 22.♘g5

22.♖c2 a5 23.♘g5 ♖e1+ 24.♗f1 ♕b4 25.♕xf7+ ♔h8 26.♕c4 ♕xc4 27.♖xc4 ♗d3 28.♘f7+ ♔g8 29.♘xd8 ♖xf1+ 30.♔g2 ♗xc4 31.bxc4 ♖c1 32.♘b7 ♖xc4 33.♘xa5=

22...h6 23.c6



23...♕xd6??

23...♕b2 24.c7 (24.♕xf7+? ♔h8 25.♖f1 hxg5 26.♗e7 ♖c8-+) 24...hxg5 25.cxd8=Q ♖xd8 26.♗c5 ♗d3 27.♖d1 ♗xc4 28.♖xd8+ ♔h7 29.bxc4 ♕b1+ 30.♗f1 ♕xa2 31.♖d7 a5 32.♖xf7 ♔g8 33.♖a7=

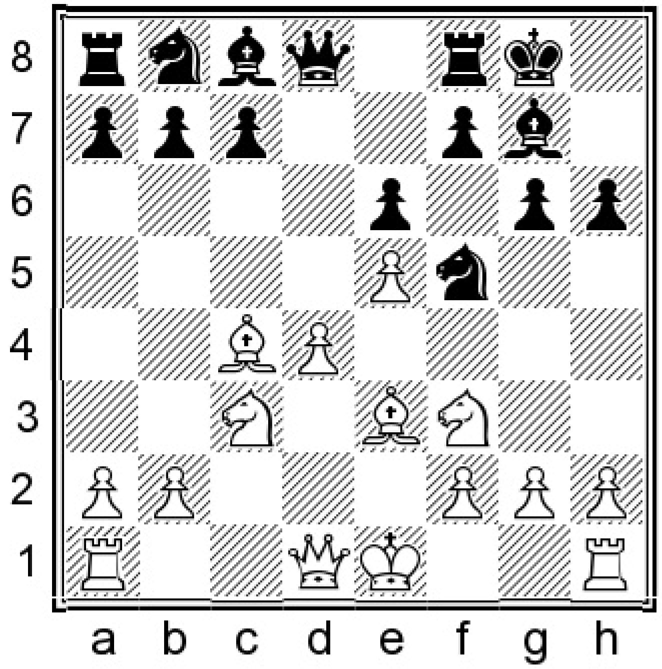
24.♕xf7++- ♔h8 25.♕xe8+ ♖xe8 26.♘f7+ ♔h7 27.♘xd6 1-0

14. A40
Goryachkina, Aleksandra (2602) - Andreikin, Dmitry (2728)
Russia (ch) 150/14, 2021

1.d4 g6 2.e4 ♗g7 3.c4 e6

3...c5 - 111/16

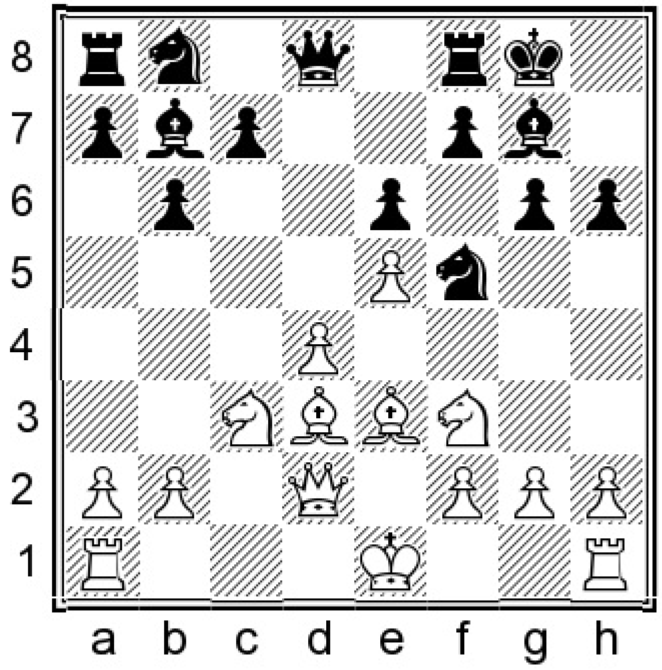
4.♘c3 ♘e7 5.♘f3 d5 6.e5 O-O 7.♗g5 dxc4 8.♗xc4 h6 9.♗e3 ♘f5



10.♕d2N

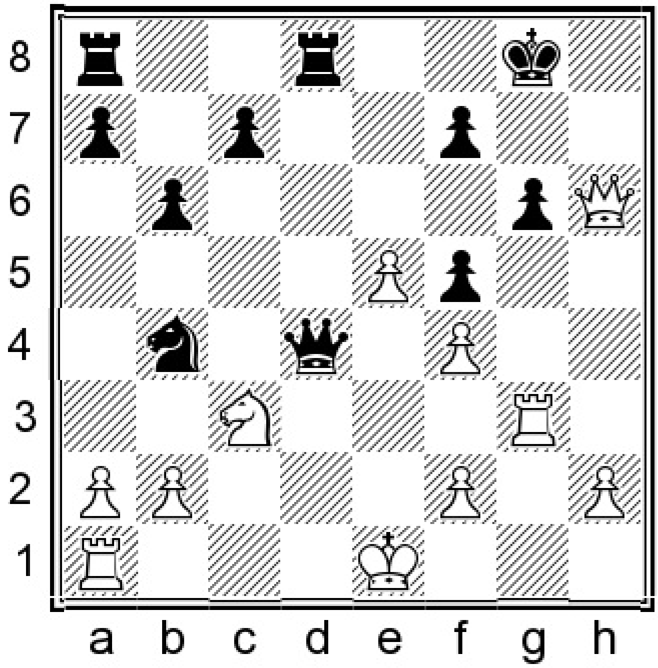
10.♕e2 c5 11.dxc5 b6 12.♖d1 ♕e7 13.♗d3 ♘xe3 14.♕xe3 bxc5 15.♗e4 ♗b7 16.O-O ♘c6 17.♘a4 ♘d4 18.♘xc5 ♘xf3+ 19.♗xf3 ♗xf3 20.♖d7 ♕g5 21.♕xf3 ♕xe5 22.b4 ♕f5 23.♕xf5=

10...b6 11.♗d3 ♗b7?!



11...♘xe3 12.♕xe3 (12.fxe3!?) 12...♗b7 13.O-O c5 14.♗e4 ♗xe4 15.♕xe4 ♘d7 16.♖ad1±

12.♗xf5! exf5 13.♗xh6 ♗xh6 14.♕xh6 ♗xf3 15.gxf3 ♕xd4 16.f4! ♘c6 17.♖g1 ♖fd8 18.♖g3 ♘b4



19.♖xg6+?

19.♔f1!! ♘d3 20.♖f3 ♕c5 (20...♕c4 21.♔g1 Δ Rh3+-; 20...c5 21.♖d1 c4 22.♖dxd3! cxd3 (22...♕xd3+ 23.♖xd3 cxd3 24.h4+-) 23.♖h3+-) 21.♖d1 ♘xf2 22.♖xd8+ ♖xd8 23.♕h4 ♖d2 (23...♕c4+ 24.♔xf2 ♖d2+ 25.♔e1 ♖xb2 26.♖h3+-) 24.♖xf2+-

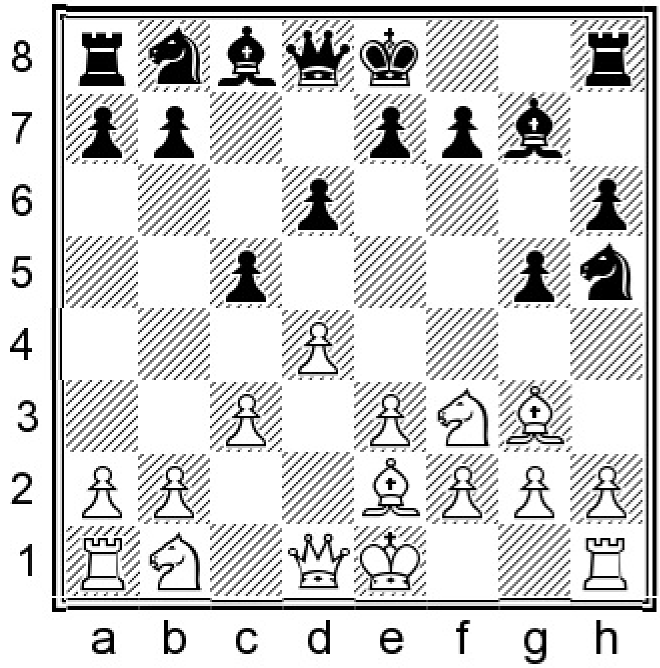
19...fxg6 20.♕xg6+ ♔h8 21.♕h6+ ♔g8 22.♕g6+ ♔h8 23.♕h6+ ♔g8 24.♕g6+ 1/2-1/2

15. A48
Henriquez Villagra, Cristobal (2608) - Shirov, Alexei (2659)
Riga 150/15, 2021

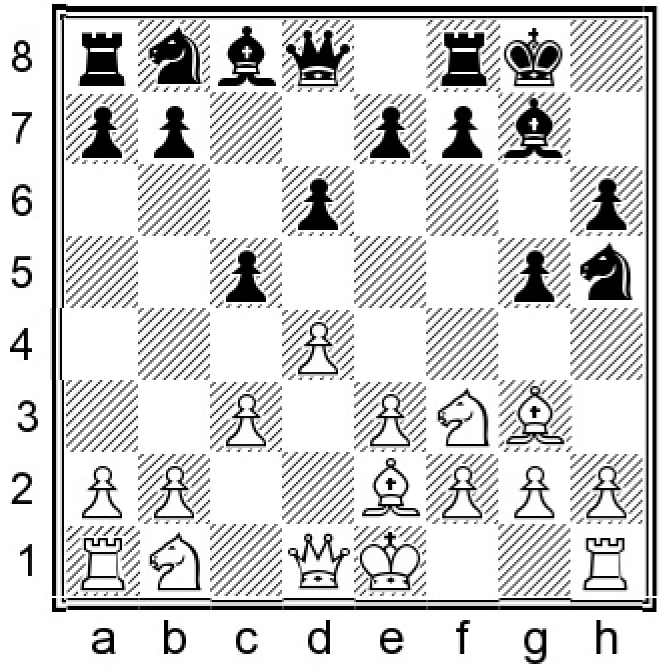
1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.♗f4 ♗g7 4.e3 d6 5.♗e2 ♘h5 6.♗g5 h6 7.♗h4 g5 8.♗g3

8.♘fd2 - 117/17

8...c5 9.c3



9...O-ON



9...♘xg3; 9...♘c6; 9...♕b6

10.dxc5! ♘xg3

10...dxc5 11.♕c2

11.hxg3 dxc5 12.♕c2 e5?

12...♖e8; 12...♕d5!?

13.♘bd2 ♘c6

13...f5? 14.O-O-O ♕e7 15.e4 f4 16.gxf4 exf4 17.e5+-

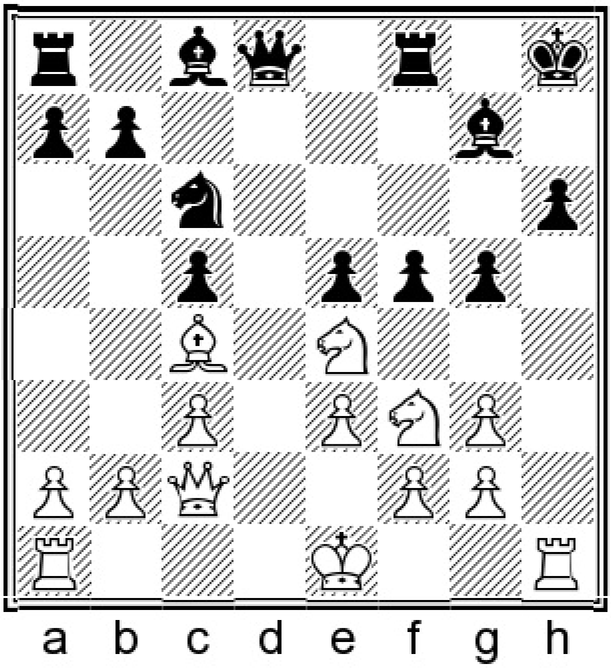
14.♘e4!

14.♗c4±

14...f5 15.♗c4+

15.♕b3+ ♔h8 16.♘exg5 e4 17.♕f7!? (17.♘f7+ ♖xf7 18.♕xf7 exf3 19.♖d1 ♕f8 20.♕xf8+ ♗xf8 21.gxf3 ♗e6⩲) 17...♕d6! (17...exf3? 18.♖xh6+ ♗xh6 19.♕h7#) 18.♘d2 b5! 19.♕h5±; 15.♘exg5 e4 16.♕b3+±

15...♔h8



16.g4!!

16.♘xc5?! ♕e7⩱

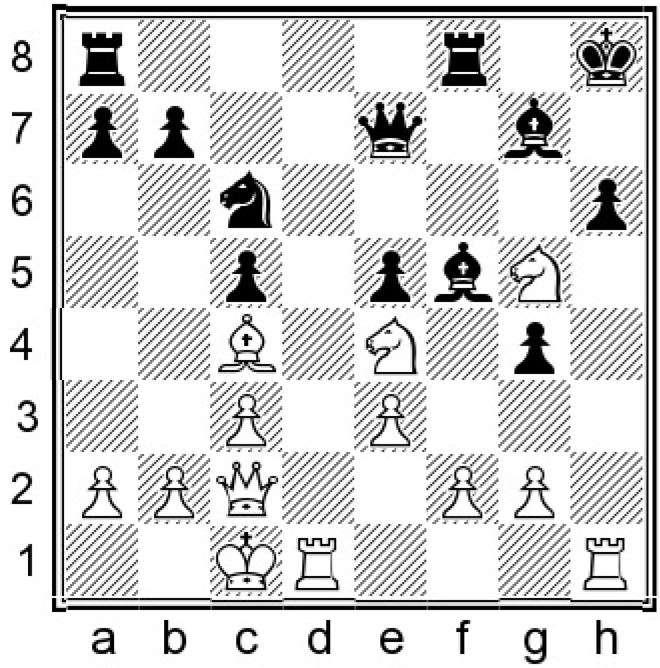
16...♕e7

16...fxe4 17.♕xe4 ♕f6 18.O-O-O (Δ Rh5) 18...♘a5 19.♖h5 ♗xg4! (19...♘xc4? 20.♘xg5) 20.♕xg4 ♘xc4 21.♕xc4±

17.O-O-O!?

17.gxf5 ♗xf5 18.O-O-O±

17...fxg4?! 18.♘fxg5+- ♗f5



19.♖h5! ♘a5 20.♗e6! ♗g6

20...♗xe6 21.♘f6! ♗xf6 22.♖xh6+ ♔g8 23.♖dh1+- (23.♘xe6+-)

21.♖dh1

21.♖d7 ♕e8 22.♘f7+ (22.♖h1+-) 22...♖xf7 (22...♔g8 23.♘f6++-) 23.♗xf7 ♕xd7 (23...♗xf7 24.♖xf7 ♕xf7 25.♘g5 ♕g8 26.♕g6+-) 24.♗xg6+-

21...g3!? 22.f3 ♖ad8 23.c4

23.♕e2+-; 23.♖5h3+-

23...b5!?

23...♘c6 24.a3+-

24.cxb5 c4 25.♕c3

25.♖xh6+! ♗xh6 26.♕c3!+- (26.♖xh6+?! ♔g7±)

25...♗xh5 26.♖xh5 ♕c7 27.♕e1!? [∆ Qh1]

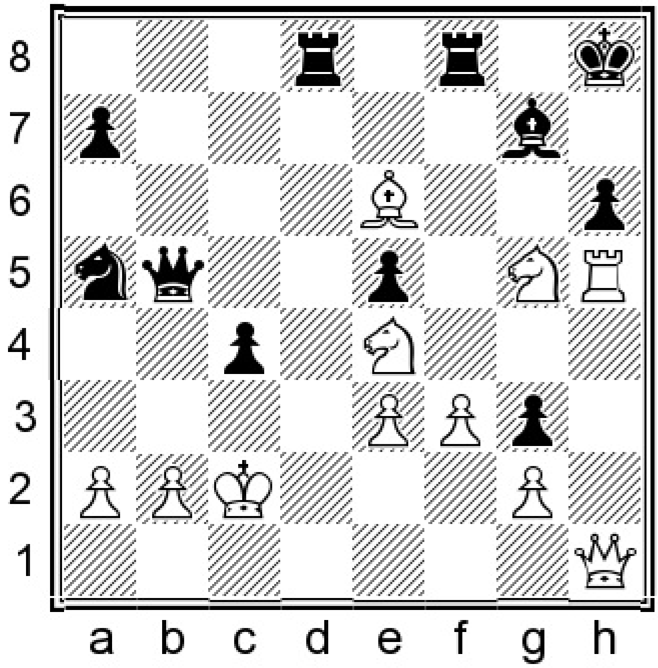
27.b4+-

27...♕b6 28.♔c2?

28.♔b1!+- ∆♖de8 29.♖h1

28...♖de8?

28...♕xb5! 29.♕h1



29...♖f6! 30.♘xf6 ♖d2+ (30...♕a4+ 31.♔c1 ♘b3+ 32.axb3 ♕a1+ 33.♔c2 ♖d2+ 34.♔xd2 ♕xb2+=) 31.♔xd2 ♕xb2+ 32.♔d1 ♕b1+=

29.♘f7+?

29.♔b1!

29...♖xf7 30.♗xf7 ♖f8 31.♗d5 ♕xb5?!

31...♖d8!

32.♘c3 ♕b6 33.♗e4

33.♔c1±

33...♖b8 34.♘d1 ♘c6 35.a3 ♖d8 36.♖h1 ♘a5 37.♕b4 ♘b3 38.♕xb6 axb6 39.♔c3 b5 40.♔b4 ♖b8 41.♗d5 e4!? 42.♗xe4 ♗f8+ 43.♔c3 ♗g7+ 44.♔b4

44.♔c2? ♖d8∓

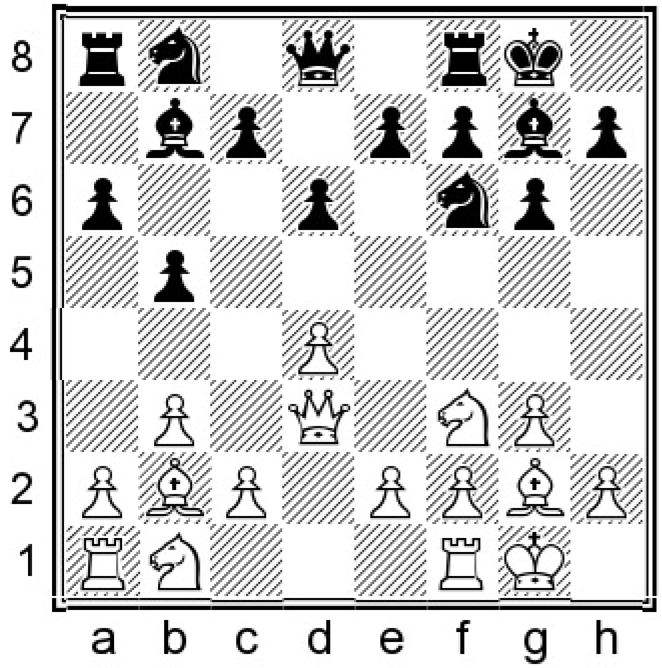
44...♗f8+ 45.♔c3 ♗g7+ 1/2-1/2

16. ** A49
Tadic, Branko (2476) - Dimic, Pavle (2338)
Srbija 150/16, 2021

1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.g3 g6 3.b3 ♗g7 4.♗b2 O-O 5.♗g2 d6 6.d4 b5!?

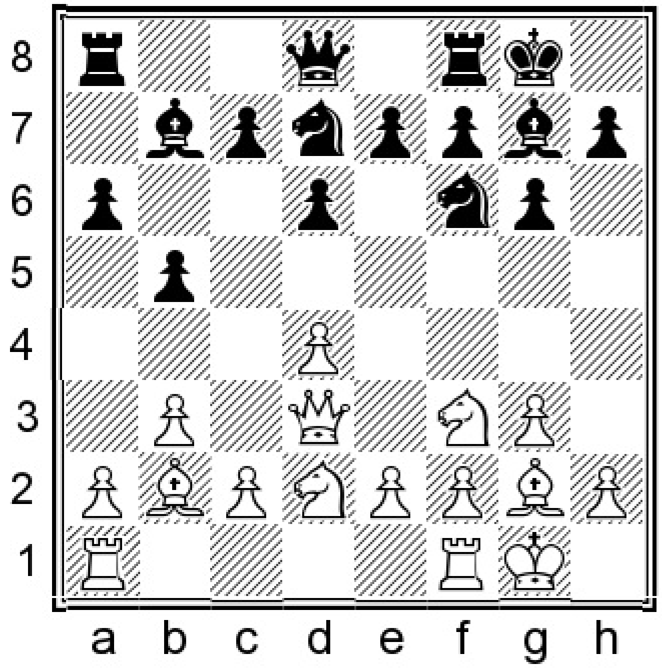
6...c5 - 144/ 16

7.O-O ♗b7 8.♕d3 a6

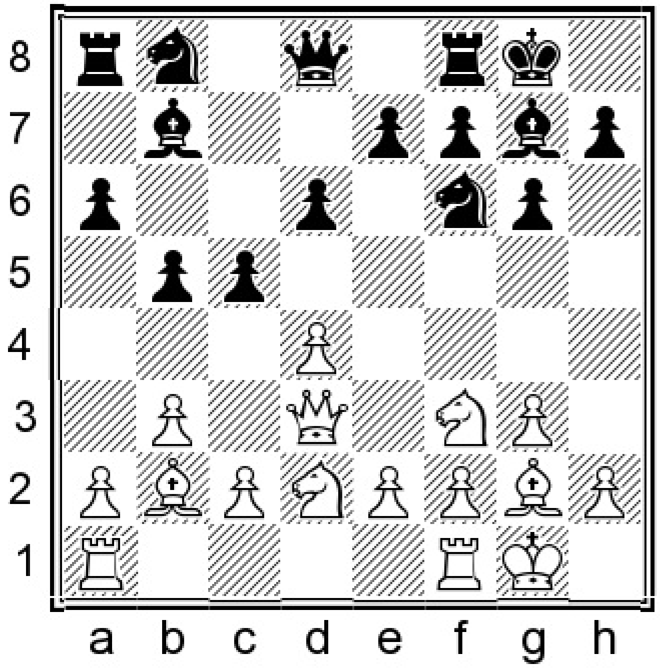


9.c4!

9.♘bd2 ♘bd7

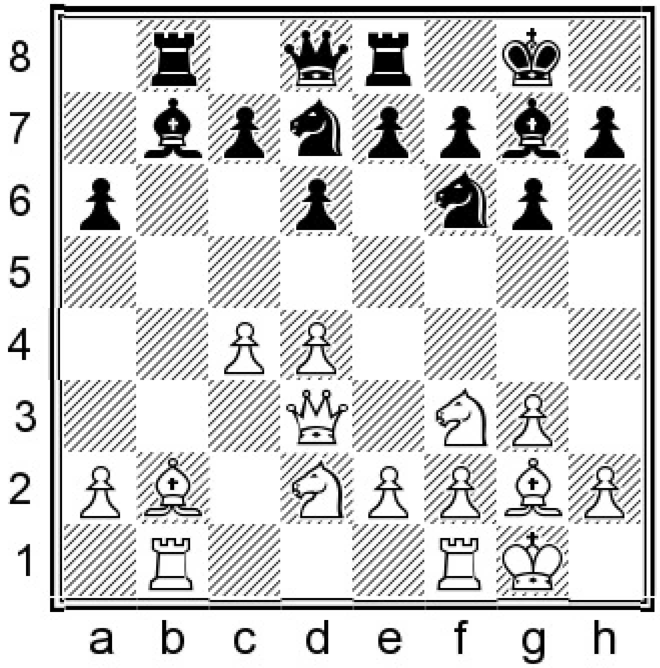


(9...c5!



10.dxc5N (10.c4 bxc4 11.♘xc4 ♘bd7 12.♖fd1 cxd4 13.♕xd4 ♖c8∞) 10...dxc5 11.a4 ♕xd3 12.cxd3 ♘bd7 13.♖fc1 ♖fc8 14.axb5 axb5 15.♘e5 ♗xg2 16.♔xg2 ♘xe5 17.♗xe5 ♘d7 18.♗xg7 ♔xg7 19.♖xa8 ♖xa8 20.♘e4 ♖a3= Artemiev,V (2709)-Carlsen,M (2847) chess24.com (Int.-m/13-blitz) 150/(16) 2021) 10.c4N (10.e4) 10...c5 11.d5↑ ♘b6 12.♕c2 bxc4 13.bxc4 a5 14.e4 ♗a6 15.♖fe1 ♖b8 16.e5 ♘fd7 17.exd6 exd6 18.♗xg7 ♔xg7 Artemiev,V (2709)-Carlsen,M (2847) chess24.com (Int.-m/3-blitz) 150/(16) 2021 (18...♔xg7 19.♖ab1±)

9...bxc4 10.bxc4 ♘bd7 11.♘bd2 ♖b8 12.♖ab1 ♖e8



13.♗a1N

13.♗c3 ♗a8 14.e4 e5 15.d5±

13...e6 14.e4 e5! 15.d5 ♘c5 16.♕e3 ♘fd7

16...a5 17.♖fe1 c6 18.h3±

17.♗c3 ♗a8?

17...♕e7 18.♗a5 c6 19.♖fe1±

18.♖xb8 ♕xb8 19.♖b1 ♕a7 20.♘b3 ♖b8 21.♘fd2

21.♗h3 ♖b7 22.♗a5 ♕b8 23.♘fd2±

21...c6

21...♖b7 22.♗h3±

22.♗h3

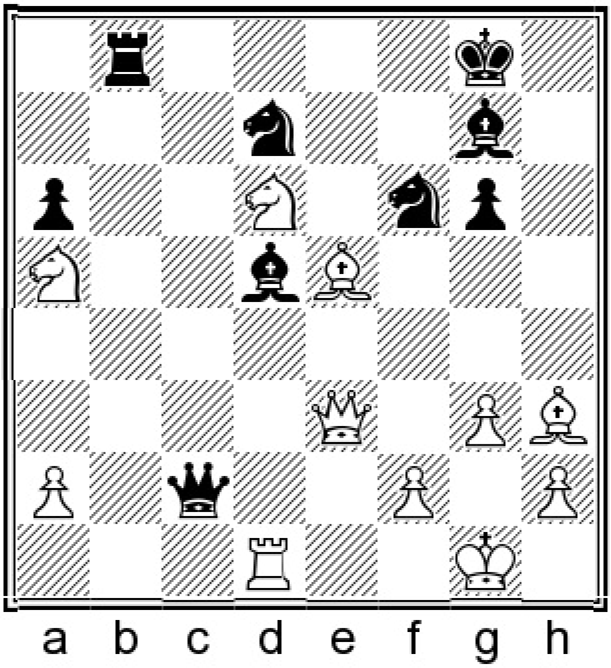
22.♗a5±

22...cxd5 23.cxd5 f5 24.exf5?!

24.♘c4! ♗f8 (24...♕c7 25.♗a5±) 25.♖d1± Δfxe4 26.♗e6+ ♔h8 27.♗xd7 ♕xd7 28.♘xc5 dxc5 29.♗xe5++-

24...♗xd5 25.fxg6 hxg6 26.♖d1 ♕b7 27.♘a5 ♕c7 28.♘dc4 ♘f6 29.♘xd6! ♘a4

29...♘cd7 30.♗xe5 ♕c2



31.♖f1! (31.♖e1?! ♘g4 32.♕d4 ♖b1! 33.♖xb1 ♕xb1+ 34.♗f1 ♘dxe5 35.♕xd5+ ♔h7=∞) 31...♘xe5 (31...♘g4 32.♕d4 ♘dxe5 33.♕xd5+ ♔h7 34.♗xg4 ♘xg4 35.♕e6 ♘e5 36.♘ac4 ♕xa2 37.♕h3+ ♔g8 38.♘xe5 ♗xe5 39.♕g4 ♔g7 (39...♔h7 40.♘e4+-) 40.♘f5+ ♔f7 41.♘h4+-) 32.♕xe5 ♗xa2 33.♘ac4±

30.♗xe5! ♕xa5 31.♗xf6 ♗xf6 32.♗e6+ ♔g7 33.♕a7+ ♔h6 34.♗xd5

34.♖xd5! ♕e1+ 35.♔g2 ♕xe6 36.♘f7+ ♔g7 37.♘d8+ ♕e7 38.♖d7+-

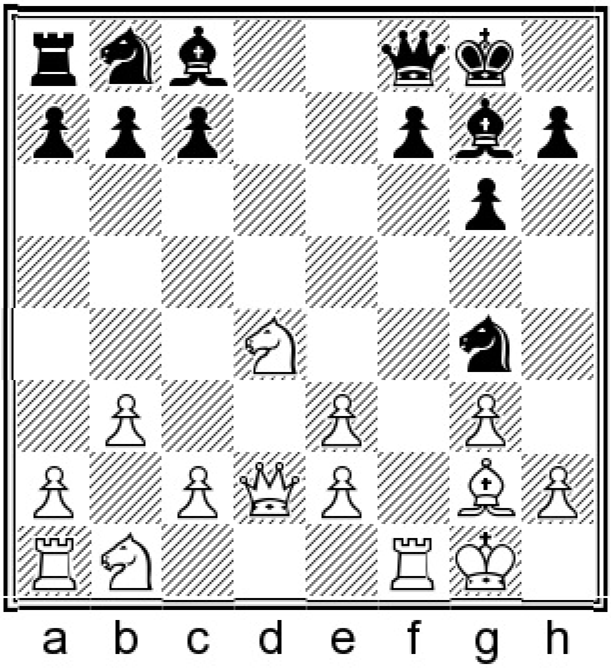
34...♕b6 35.♕d7 ♘c5 36.♘f7+ ♔g7 37.♕h3 ♔f8 38.♕h6+ ♗g7 39.♕f4 ♗f6 40.♕h6+ ♗g7 41.♕f4 ♗f6 42.♗c4 ♖e8 43.♘d6 1-0

17. ** A49
Meier, Georg (2628) - Chigaev, Maksim (2639)
chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/17, 2021

1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.g3 g6 3.♗g2 ♗g7 4.d4 O-O 5.O-O d6 6.b3 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.♗a3 e4!? 9.♗xf8 ♕xf8 10.♘d4 e3! 11.f4

11.♘c3? ♘g4 12.fxe3 (12.♕d3 exf2+ 13.♔h1 ♘d7!-+) 12...♘xe3 13.♕d3 ♘xf1 14.♖xf1 c6 (14...c5 15.♘db5 ♘c6∞) 15.♘e4 ♕e7 16.♘f3 ♘a6! 17.♖d1 ♗f5 Δ Nc5∓

11.fxe3?! ♘g4 12.♕d2



12...c5! (12...♗h6? 13.♖f4! ♗xf4 14.exf4+-) 13.♗d5 ♘f6∓; 11.f3 ♗d7 (11...c5!? 12.♘b5 ♘c6⯹) 12.a4 ♘c6 13.♘xc6 ♗xc6 14.c3 h5 15.♕c1 ♕e7↑

11...♘c6

11...♘a6 12.c3 ♘c5 13.♕c1 ♗d7 14.b4 ♘ce4 15.♗xe4 ♘xe4 16.♕xe3±

12.♘xc6

12.c3 ♘xd4 13.cxd4 ♘g4 14.♘c3 c5↑

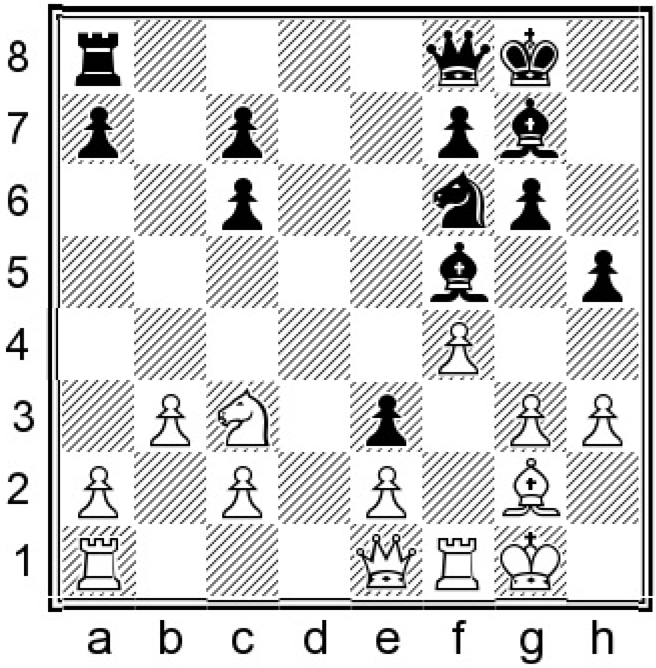
12...bxc6 13.♘c3

13.♗xc6 ♗h3! 14.♗g2 (14.♗xa8 ♕xa8 15.♖f3 ♘e4 16.c3 a5↑) 14...♖d8 15.♕c1 ♗xg2 16.♔xg2 ♕c5↑

13...♗f5 14.♕e1

14.♕c1 h5 (14...♖e8!?) 15.♘d1 (15.♕xe3? ♘g4 16.♕f3 ♕c5+-+) 15...♖e8=∞

14...h5 15.h3



- 150/(17)

15.♖d1N ♕c5 16.h3 ♖e8 17.♖c1 ♘d5 18.♘a4 ♕e7 19.♕a5 ♕e6 20.c4 ♘f6 21.♘c5 ♕e7 22.♔h2 h4 23.g4 ♗xg4 24.hxg4 ♘xg4+ 25.♔g1 ♘f2 26.♗xc6 ♖d8 27.♔g2? (27.♗d5 h3 28.♘d3 c6 29.♘xf2±) 27...h3+ (27...♕d6-+) 28.♔f3 ♕h4 29.♗d7 (29.♘d7 ♗h6 30.♕xc7 h2∓) 29...♗d4 30.♖g1 ♕h5+ 31.♔g3 h2 32.♕xc7 hxg1=Q+ 33.♖xg1 ♖f8 34.♘e6 ♕g4+ 35.♔h2 ♕h3# 0-1 (35) Meier,G (2628)-Chigaev,M (2639) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(17) 2021

15...♖e8N

15...♘d5 - 150/(17) 16.♘xd5 cxd5 17.♗xd5 c6 18.♗g2 ♕c5 (18...♗xa1 19.♕xa1 ♕c5=) 19.c3 ♖d8 20.b4 (20.g4!?) 20...♕b6=∞ He,A (2337) -Chen,R (2183) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(17) 2021

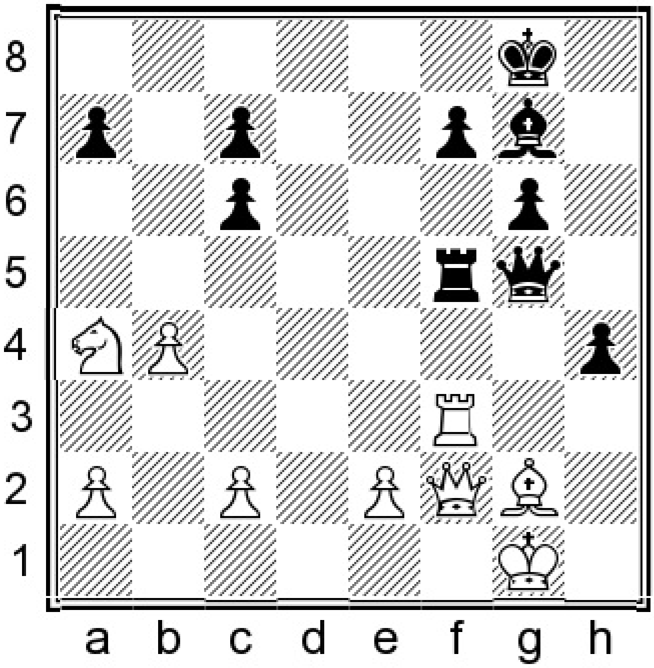
16.♔h2 h4 17.g4 ♗xg4 18.hxg4

18.♖d1!? ♗f5 19.♗xc6 ♖e6 20.♗f3 c6 21.♕xh4 ♘e8=∞

18...♘xg4+ 19.♔g1 ♘f2 20.♖d1 ♕b4

20...h3 21.♗f3 ♕b4⇄

21.♘a4 ♕xf4 22.♖xf2 exf2+ 23.♕xf2 ♕g5 24.♖d3 ♖e5 25.b4 ♖f5 26.♖f3


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

26...♕c1+?

26...h3!-+

27.♗f1 ♖g5+ 28.♔h1 ♕xc2 29.♘c5 ♕xa2 30.♕xh4?

30.♕e3

30...♖h5 0-1

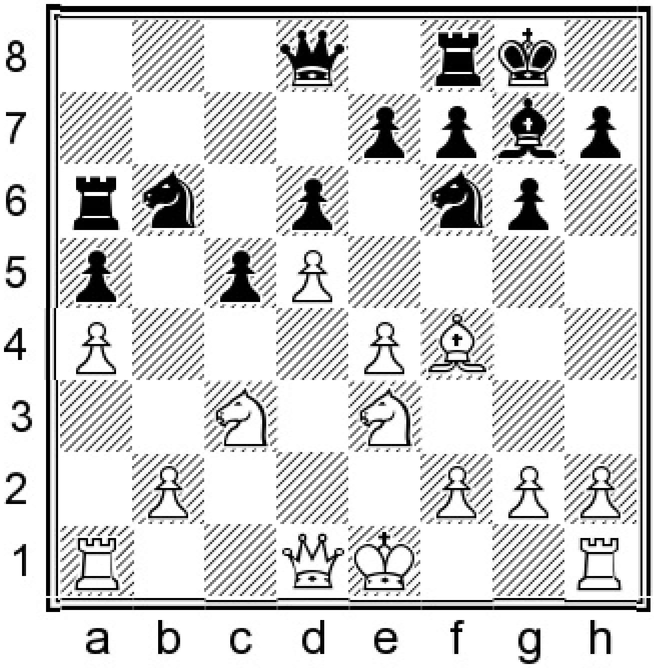
A50-A99

18. A57
Suleymanli, Aydin Elshan (2536) - Perunovic, Milos (2566)
Struga 150/18, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.♘f3 g6 5.cxb5 a6 6.b6 ♕xb6 7.♘c3 ♗g7 8.e4 d6 9.♘d2 O-O 10.♗e2 ♘bd7 11.♘c4 ♕d8! 12.♗f4 ♘b6 13.♘e3 a5

13...♘e8!? - 65/62

14.a4 ♗a6 15.♗xa6 ♖xa6



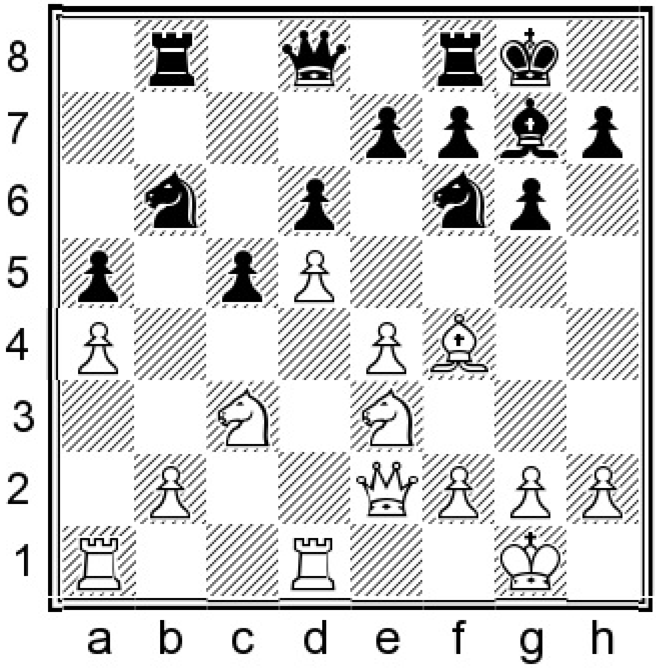
16.♕e2N

16.O-O ♖a8∞

16...♖a8

16...♖a7!?

17.O-O ♖b8 18.♖fd1



18.h3!

18...♕c8

18...♘h5! 19.♗g5 h6 20.♗h4 c4! 21.♕d2 (21.♘f5?! gxf5 22.♕xh5 fxe4 23.♘xe4 f5 24.♘c3 ♘d7∓) 21...♕d7↑

19.h3 ♕b7 20.♗h2 ♘e8 21.e5?!

21.h4 ♘c7 22.h5 ♕a6 23.♕f3 ♘d7∞

21...dxe5 22.♘g4 ♘d7?!

22...f6! 23.f4 h5 24.♘f2 ♘d7 25.fxe5 ♘xe5 26.♘d3 ♘d6∓

23.♘xe5 ♘xe5 24.♗xe5 ♗xe5 25.♕xe5 ♘d6 26.♖ab1

26.♖e1 ♕xb2 27.♖ab1 ♕a3 28.♕xe7 ♕xc3 29.♕xd6 ♖xb1 30.♖xb1 ♕d4=

26...♕d7

26...♖fd8 27.♘e4 ♘xe4 28.♕xe4 e6 29.♕e1 exd5 30.♕xa5 c4=

27.♖e1 ♖b7 28.♖e2 ♖fb8 29.♖be1 ♖xb2 30.♕xe7 ♕xe7 31.♖xe7 ♖c2

31...♖8b7 32.♖xb7 ♖xb7 33.f3 ♔f8 34.♔f2=

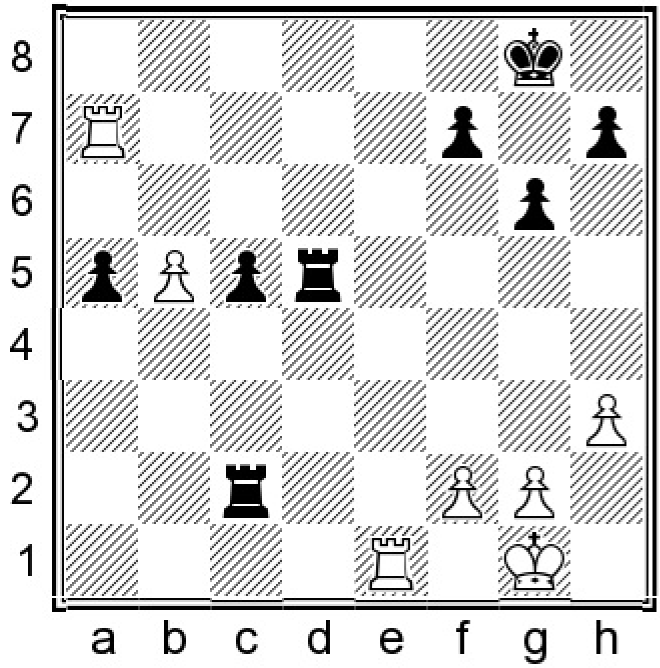
32.♘b5 ♖d8

32...♘xb5?? 33.♖e8+! ♖xe8 34.♖xe8+ ♔g7 35.axb5 a4 36.b6 a3 (36...♖b2 37.d6+-) 37.♖a8 a2 38.d6! ♖c1+ 39.♔h2 a1=Q 40.♖xa1 ♖xa1 41.b7+-; 32...♖b6=

33.♖a7 ♘xb5

⌓33...♖d2 34.♖xa5 (34.♘c3 ♖c2=) 34...♘xb5 35.axb5 ♖8xd5=

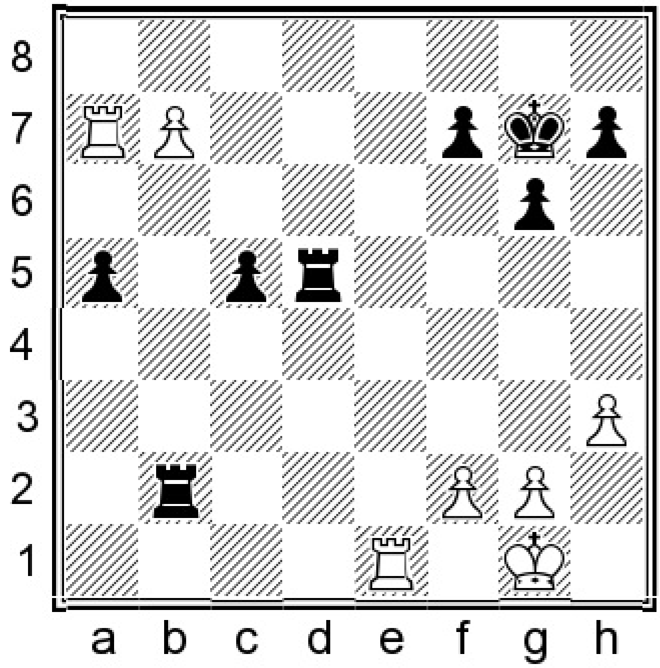
34.axb5 ♖xd5??



34...♖b2?! 35.♖ee7 ♖f8 36.♖xa5±; 34...♖d2! 35.♖ee7 (35.b6 ♖2xd5 36.♖ee7 (36.b7 ♖b8 37.♖a8 ♖dd8=) 36...♖f8 37.♖xa5 ♖d1+ 38.♔h2 ♖b1 39.♖b7 ♖e8 40.♖xc5 ♖e6=) 35...♖f8 36.♖ed7 ♖b2 37.♖xa5 ♖e8=

35.♖b1??

35.b6! ♖b2 36.b7 ♔g7



(36...♖d8 37.♖a8 ♖f8 38.♖ee8+-) 37.♖e7! ♔f6 (37...♖f5 38.♖e8 ♖fxf2 39.b8=Q ♖xg2+ 40.♔h1+-) 38.♖xf7+ ♔e5 39.♖e7+ ♔d6 40.♖xh7+-

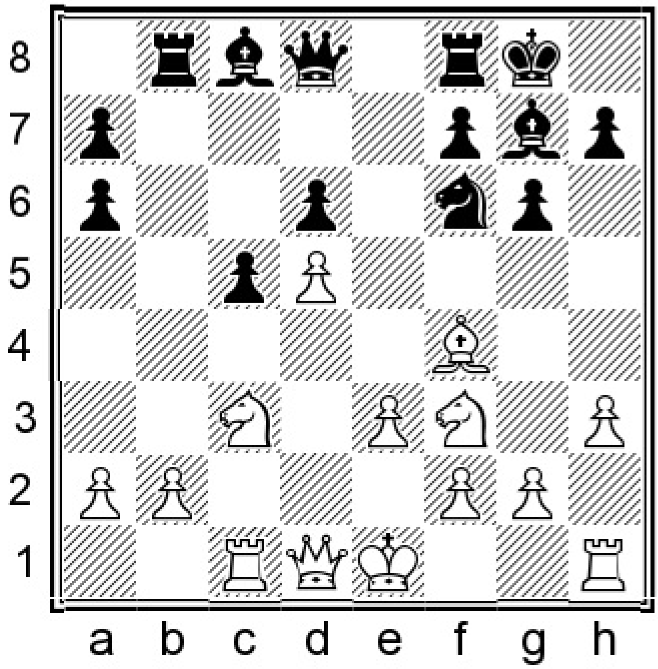
35...♖dd2 36.b6 ♖xf2 37.b7 ♖xg2+ 1/2-1/2

19. * A61
Esipenko, Andrey (2720) - Abdusattorov, Nodirbek (2646)
Riga 150/19, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.♘c3 g6 7.h3 ♗g7 8.♗f4 O-O 9.e3 ♘a6 10.♗xa6!

10.♗c4 - 142/23

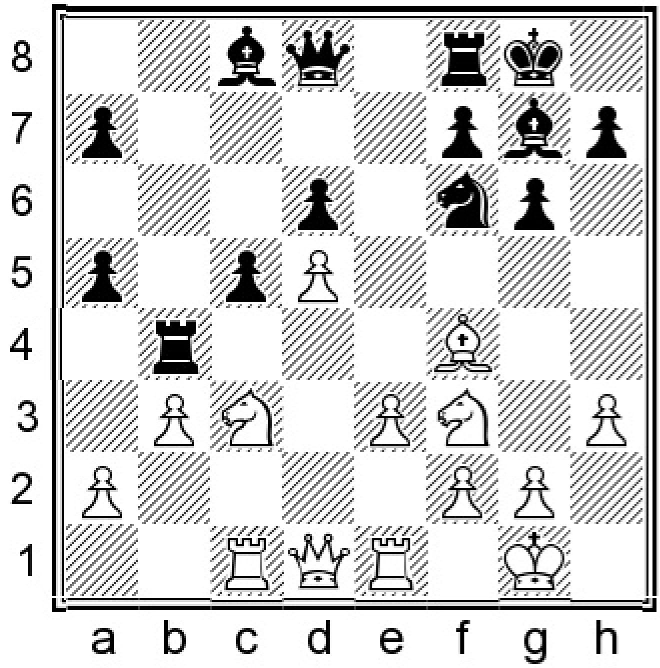
10...bxa6 11.♖c1 ♖b8



12.b3 a5 - 150/19

12...♘h5 13.♗h2 f5 14.O-O f4 15.exf4 ♘xf4 16.♘e4 a5 17.♖e1±; 12...h6N 13.O-O g5 14.♗h2 a5 15.♘d2 ♗a6 16.♘c4 ♗xc4 17.bxc4± Cori Tello,J (2655)-Indjic,A (2612) Riga 150/(19) 2021

13.O-O ♖b4 14.♖e1



14...♘h5N

14...♕e7

15.♗h2 f5 16.a3 ♖b7 17.e4 ♗xc3?

17...♗h6! 18.♖c2 (18.e5 ♗xc1 19.♕xc1 f4 20.e6 g5⇄) 18...fxe4 19.♘xe4 ♘f4 20.♖c3 ♖bf7±

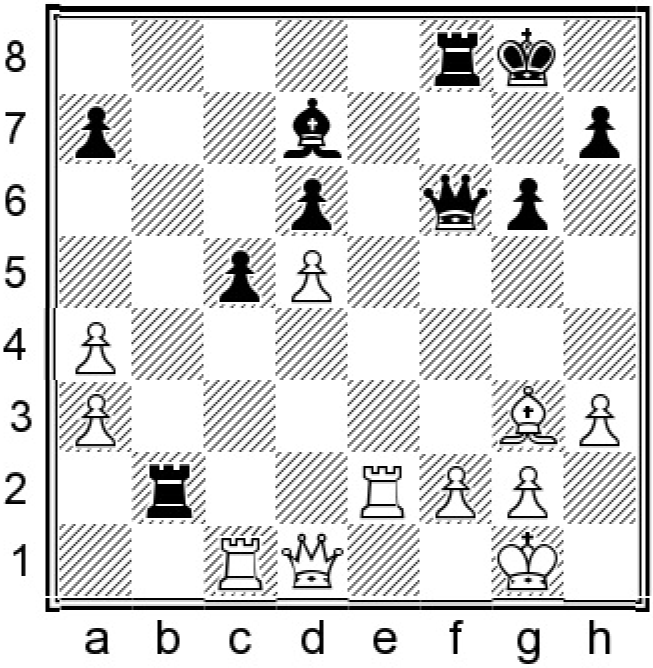
18.♖xc3 fxe4 19.♘d2

19.♖xe4 ♖bf7 20.♖ce3±

19...♘f6 20.♘xe4 ♘xe4 21.♖xe4 ♗f5 22.♖e1 a4 23.bxa4 ♖b1 24.♖c1 ♖b2

24...♖xc1 25.♕xc1 ♕f6 26.♗g3 g5 27.f3±

25.♗g3 ♕f6 26.♖e2 ♗d7?

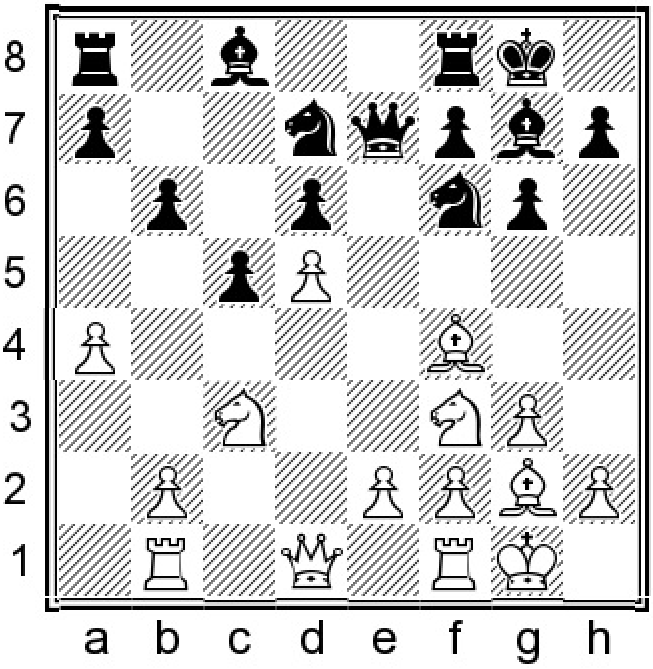


26...♖xe2 27.♕xe2±

27.♗e5! 1-0

20. A62
Kozul, Zdenko (2601) - Ivanisevic, Ivan (2605)
Slovenija 150/20, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.♘c3 g6 7.♗g2 ♗g7 8.♘f3 O-O 9.O-O ♘bd7 10.♗f4 ♕e7 11.a4 b6 12.♖b1



12.♘b5 - 102/57

12...♗a6!?N

12...♘h5

13.♖e1 ♖fe8 14.h3 ♕f8 15.♕c2 ♘h5 16.♗d2 ♘e5 17.♘xe5 ♗xe5 18.♘e4 ♘f6 19.♘xf6+

19.♘g5! ♘d7 20.f4 ♗g7 21.e4 c4 22.♗c3 ♗xc3 23.bxc3 ♘c5 24.♖e3 ♗b7 25.♖be1±

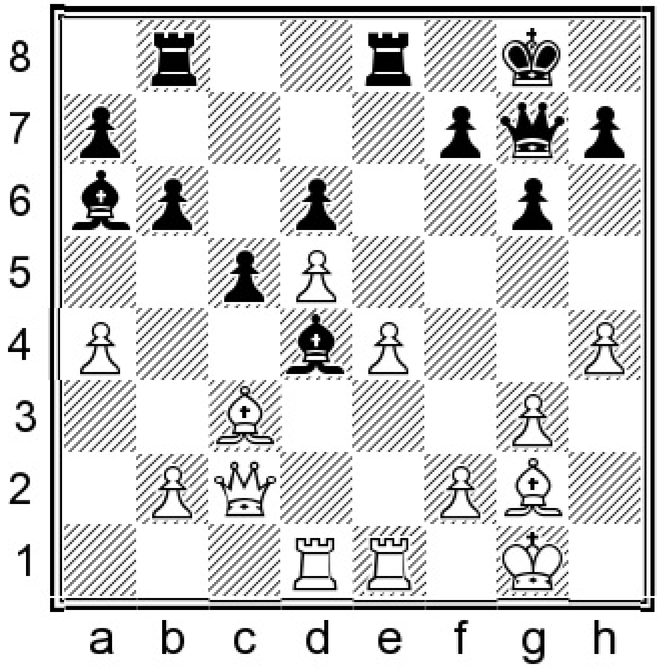
19...♗xf6 20.♗c3

20.e4 ♕g7 21.f4 ♗d4+ 22.♔h2 h5 23.h4∞

20...♕g7 21.e4 ♖ab8 22.h4 ♗d4

22...♗xc3 23.bxc3 ♗c8 24.♖e3 f5 25.♖be1 ♕f6∞

23.♖bd1



23...♖e7?

23...♗xc3 24.bxc3 ♗c8 25.♖e3 f5 26.♖de1 ♕f6∞

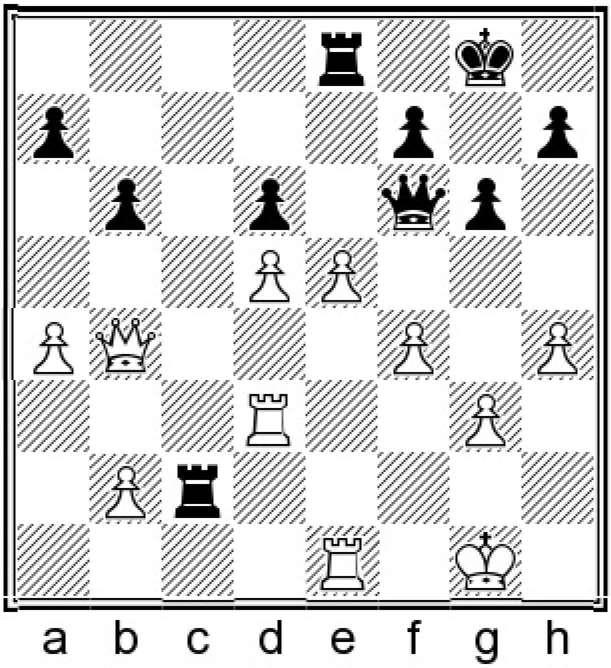
24.♗xd4 cxd4 25.♕d2

25.♕c6! ♖d8 (25...♕f6 26.f4 ♖c8 (26...♗b7 27.♕c4+-) 27.e5! ♖xc6 28.exf6 ♖xe1+ 29.♖xe1 ♖c8 30.♗h3 ♖d8 31.♗d7+-) 26.a5 d3 (26...♗b7 27.♕a4 bxa5 28.♕xa5±) 27.axb6 ♕d4 28.b7 ♗xb7 29.♕b5±

25...d3 26.♕b4 ♕f6 27.f4 ♖ee8 28.♗f1

28.♗h3 ♗c8 29.♗f1 a5 30.♕c3 ♕xc3 31.bxc3 ♗d7 32.♗xd3 ♗xa4±

28...♖bc8!= 29.♗xd3 ♗xd3 30.♖xd3 ♖c2 31.e5



31.♖c3 a5 32.♕c4 (32.♕xb6 ♖xc3 33.bxc3 ♕xc3 34.♔f2 ♖c8 35.♖e2 ♕a1 36.e5 ♕h1=) 32...♖xb2=; 31.♖d2 a5 32.♕d4 ♕xd4+ 33.♖xd4 ♖xb2=

31...♖xe5! 32.♖xe5 dxe5 33.♖c3

33.d6? ♕f5! 34.♕b3 ♖c1+ 35.♖d1 ♕b1 36.♖xc1 ♕xc1+ 37.♔h2 ♕d2+∓

33...♕f5 34.♖xc2 ♕xc2 35.fxe5 ♕d1+ 36.♔f2 ♕xd5 37.♕e7

37.♕d6 ♕b3 (37...♕xd6 38.exd6 ♔f8 39.♔e3 ♔e8 40.♔e4 f6 41.♔d5 ♔d7=) 38.♕d8+ ♔g7 39.♕f6+=

37...h5 38.♕xa7 ♕d4+ 39.♔f3 ♕xb2 40.♕a8+ ♔g7 41.♕e4 1/2-1/2

21. A67
Gukesh, Dommaraju (2599) - Indjic, Aleksandar (2629)
Struga 150/21, 2021

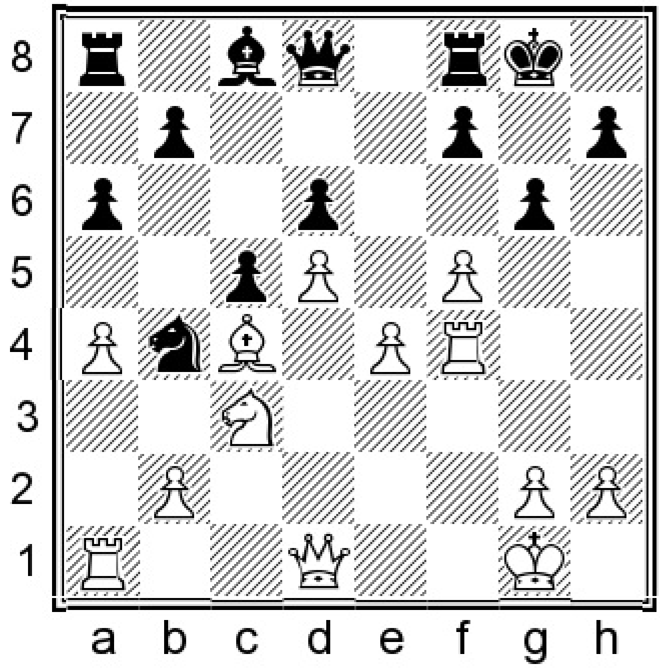
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 ♗g7 8.♗b5+ ♘fd7 9.a4 O-O 10.♘f3 ♘a6 11.O-O ♘b4 12.f5!?

12.♖e1 - 114/28

12...♘e5 13.♘xe5 ♗xe5 14.♗f4 ♗xf4

14...♗d4+ 15.♔h1 a6 16.♗d3±

15.♖xf4 a6 16.♗c4



16...♕f6N

16...♗d7 17.♕d2±

17.♕d2 ♕e5

17...♕d4+! 18.♕xd4 cxd4 19.♘e2 d3 20.♘c3 ♗d7 21.a5 (21.♖d1 ♗xa4! 22.♘xa4 b5 23.♗xb5 axb5 24.♘c3 ♖fc8⇄) 21...b5! 22.axb6 ♖ab8⇄

18.♖f3?

18.♖f2! f6 19.♕h6 gxf5 20.♖e1 b5 21.axb5 axb5 22.♗xb5 ♖a7±

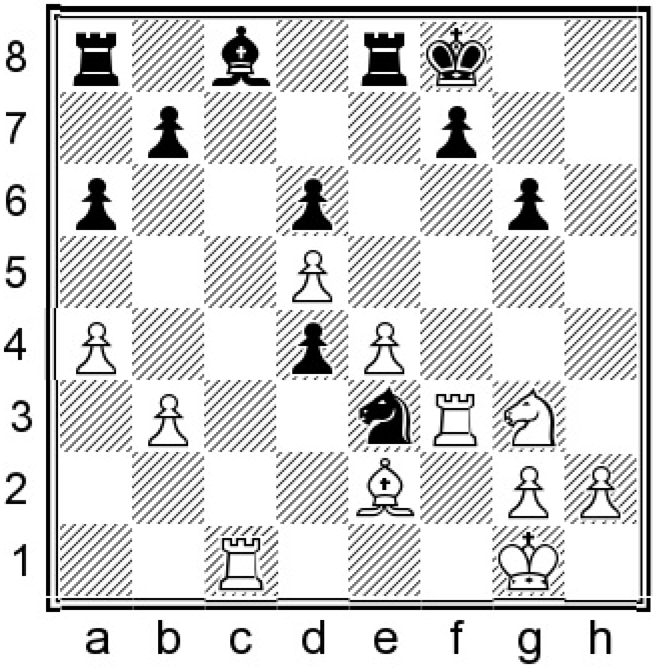
18...♕d4+ 19.♕xd4 cxd4 20.♘e2 ♖e8 21.fxg6 hxg6 22.♘g3

22.♖f4 g5 23.♖f6 ♗g4 24.♘g3 ♖ac8 25.b3 d3⇄

22...♘c2

22...♗d7 23.♖af1 (23.♗b3 a5! 24.♖f6 ♖a6∞) 23...♖e7 24.e5 ♖xe5 25.♖xf7 ♖d8 26.a5 d3∞

23.♖c1 ♘e3 24.♗e2 ♔f8 25.b3?



25.♖c7 ♖e7 26.♖xe7 ♔xe7 27.♘f1 ♘xf1 28.♔xf1 ♗d7 29.♖b3 (29.a5 ♖c8 30.♖b3 ♖c1+ 31.♔f2 ♖c2 32.♔e1 ♗c8=) 29...b5 30.axb5 ♗xb5 31.♗xb5 axb5 32.♖xb5 ♔f6=

25...♖b8?

25...♗d7! 26.♖c7 (26.♘f1 ♘g4! 27.♖d3 ♖xe4 28.♘g3 ♖e3 29.♖xd4 ♘e5∓) 26...♖e7 27.♖xb7 ♗g4∓

26.h3! ♗d7 27.♗d3 ♖bc8 28.♖xc8 ♖xc8 29.♘e2 ♘c2 30.♗xc2 ♖xc2 31.♘xd4 ♖d2 32.♘e6+ ♔e7 33.♘f4

33.♘g5! f6 34.♘h7 f5 35.exf5 ♗xf5 36.♖e3+ ♔d8 37.♘f6±

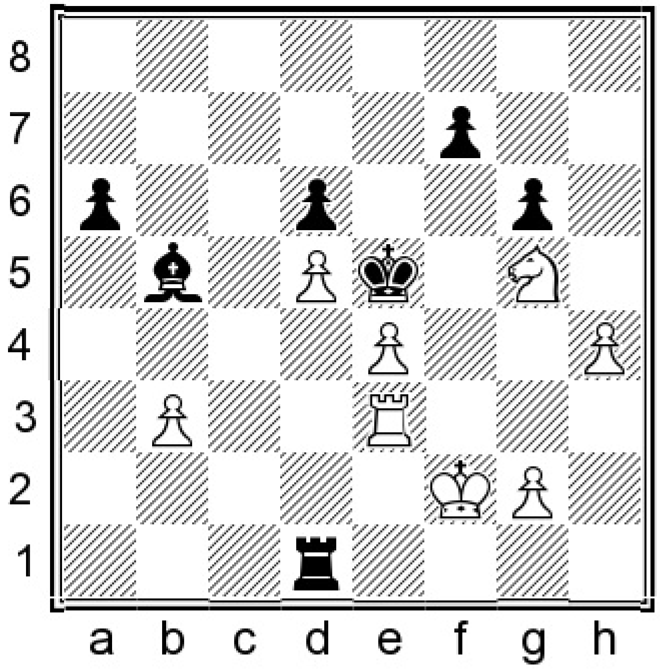
33...b5 34.axb5 ♗xb5 35.h4 ♖d4

35...♗d7! 36.♘d3 ♗g4 37.♖e3 ♗e2 38.♘f4 (38.♘f2 ♖c2⯹) 38...♗d1⯹

36.♖e3 ♔f6 37.♘h3

37.♔f2 ♔e5 38.♔f3 ♖d1⯹

37...♖d1+ 38.♔f2 ♔e5 39.♘g5



39...♖f1+??

39...f6! 40.♘f7+ (40.♘f3+ ♔f4 41.g3+ ♔g4∞) 40...♔d4 41.♖f3 ♔xe4 42.♘xd6+ ♔e5! 43.♘c4+ (43.♘xb5 axb5=) 43...♗xc4 44.bxc4 ♖d2+ 45.♔e3 (45.♔g3 ♖c2=) 45...♖d4 46.h5!? (46.♖xf6 ♖xc4 47.♖xg6 ♖xh4 48.♖xa6 ♔xd5=) 46...♖xc4 47.h6 (47.d6 ♖d4 48.hxg6 ♖xd6=) 47...♖c8 48.d6 ♖h8 49.d7 ♔e6=

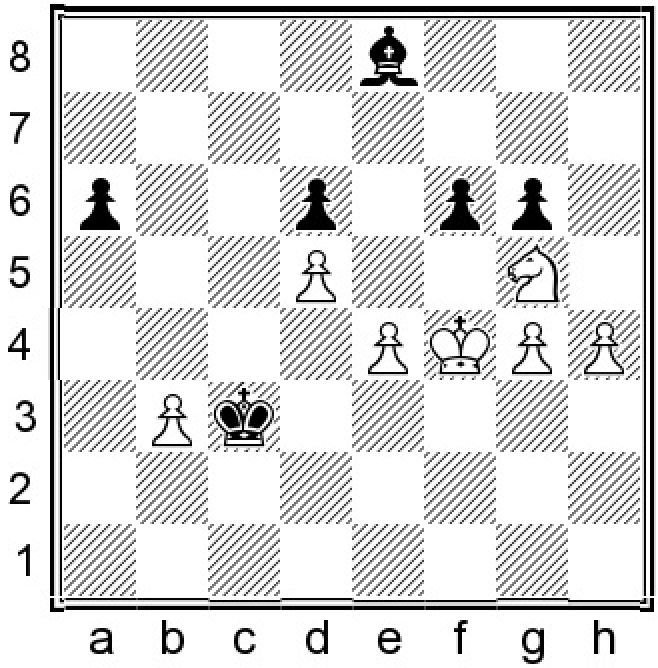
40.♔g3 ♔d4

40...♗e8 41.♖c3 ♖b1 42.♘f3+ ♔f6 43.♔f4+-

41.♖f3 ♖xf3+ 42.♔xf3 ♗e8

42...f6 43.♘e6+ ♔c3 44.g4 ♗e8 45.♘c7 ♗f7 46.♘xa6 ♔xb3 47.♘c7+-

43.♔f4 ♔c3 44.g4 f6



44...♔xb3 45.h5 gxh5 46.gxh5 f6 47.h6 ♗g6 48.♘e6 a5 49.♘f8 a4 50.♘xg6 a3 51.h7+-

45.♘h7! g5+

45...♔xb3 46.♘xf6 a5 47.♘xe8 a4 48.e5 dxe5+ 49.♔g5!+-

46.hxg5 fxg5+ 47.♔xg5 ♔xb3 48.♘f6 ♗b5

48...♗f7 49.♔f5 a5 50.e5+-

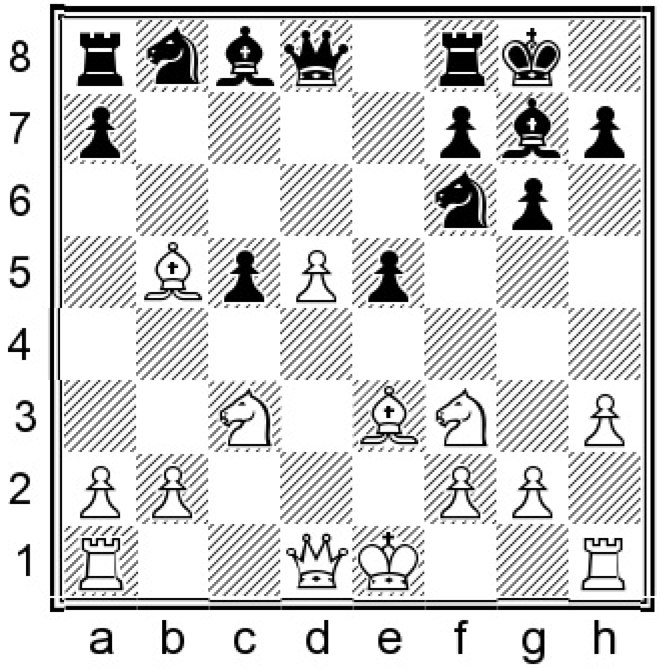
49.♔f5 a5 50.g5 a4 51.g6 a3 52.g7 a2 53.g8=Q a1=Q 54.♕g3+ 1-0

22. * A70
Sargissian, Gabriel (2664) - Indjic, Aleksandar (2612)
Riga 150/22, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 c5 4.d5 d6 5.♘c3 exd5 6.cxd5 g6 7.h3 ♗g7 8.e4 O-O 9.♗e3 b5

9...♖e8 - 73/90

10.e5 dxe5 11.♗xb5



11.♗xc5 b4! 12.♗xb4 (12.♗xf8? ♗xf8 13.♘a4 e4 14.♘d2 ♕xd5∓) 12...♖e8 13.♗b5 ♗d7 14.O-O ♗xb5 15.♘xb5 e4 16.♘d6 exf3 17.♘xe8 ♘xe8 18.♕xf3 ♘a6∞

11...e4N

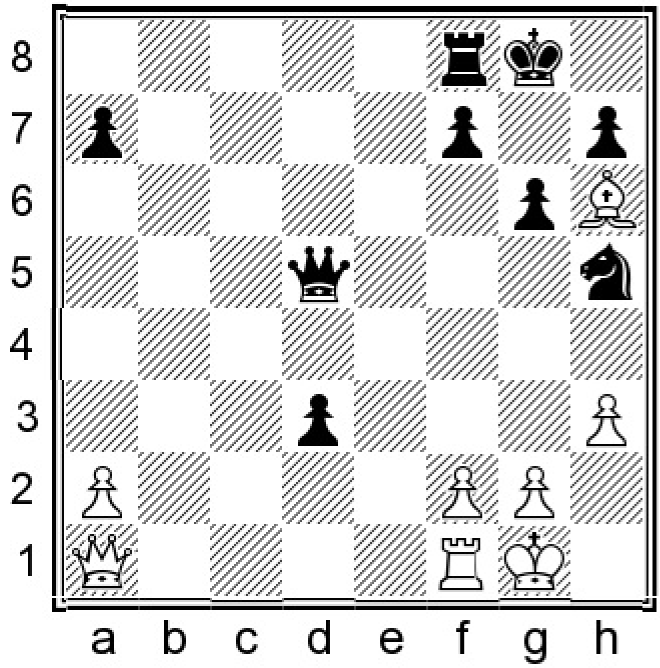
11...♘bd7

12.♘e5 ♘h5 13.♘c6

13.♘c4 ♗d7 14.♕a4 ♕e8 15.♖b1 a6 16.♗xd7 ♘xd7∞

13...♘xc6 14.dxc6

14.♗xc6 ♗a6! 15.♗xa8 ♕xa8 16.♘a4 ♗d3 17.♘xc5 ♗xb2 18.♘xd3 exd3 19.O-O (19.♖b1 ♗c3+ 20.♔f1 ♕xd5↑) 19...♗xa1 20.♕xa1 ♕xd5 21.♗h6



21...f6! 22.♕c3 (22.♗xf8 ♘f4 23.f3 ♕g5 24.♕b2 d2 25.g4 ♕h4 26.♕xd2 ♕g3+ 27.♔h1 ♕xh3+ 28.♔g1 ♕g3+=) 22...♖e8∞

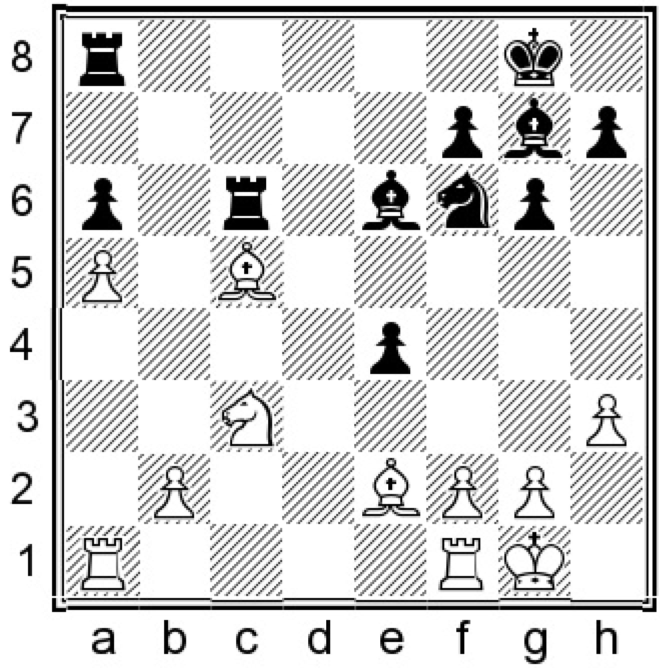
14...♕a5 15.a4 a6 16.♗e2 ♘f6 17.O-O

17.♕d6 ♗e6 18.♕xc5 ♕xc5 19.♗xc5 ♖fc8=

17...♗e6 18.♕d6 ♖fd8 19.♕xc5 ♕xc5 20.♗xc5 ♖dc8 21.a5

21.b4 ♖xc6 22.♗d4 ♘d5 23.♘xd5 ♗xd5 24.♗xg7 ♔xg7=

21...♖xc6



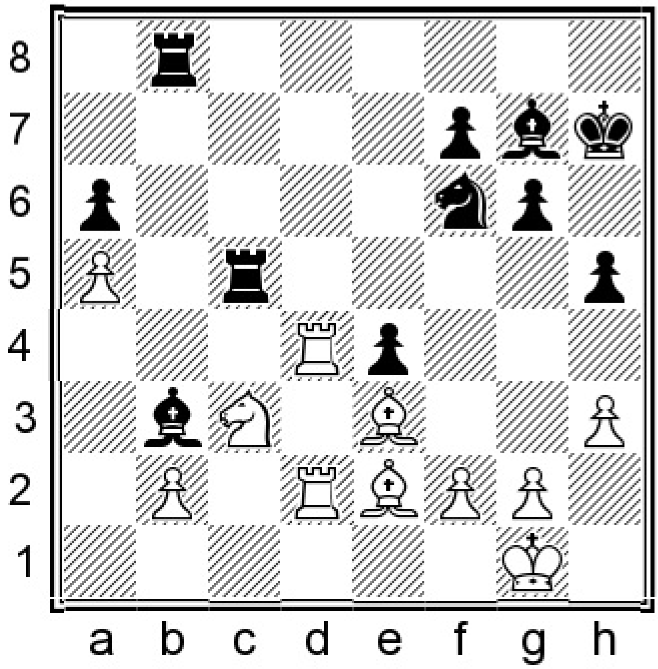
22.♗e3!N

22.♗d4 - 150/(22) 22...♖b8 23.♖fb1 ♗c4 24.b4 ♗xe2 25.♘xe2 ♘d5= Bluebaum,M (2674) - Shevchenko,K (2619) Polanica-Zdroj 150/(22) 2021

22...♖b8 23.♖fd1 h5 24.♖d2 ♔h7! 25.♖a4 ♗b3?

25...♗f8! 26.♘xe4 (26.♗g5 ♗b3 27.♖ad4 ♗b4=; 26.♗b6 ♘d7 27.♗e3 ♘f6=) 26...♘xe4 27.♖xe4 ♗b4 28.♖d8!? (28.♖d1 ♗xa5 29.♖a4 ♗c7=) 28...♖xd8 29.♖xb4 ♗d5 30.♔h2=

26.♖ad4 ♖c5?



26...♘e8 27.♖d7 ♗e6 28.♖a7 ♗e5 29.♘xe4 (29.♖xa6 ♖xa6 30.♗xa6 ♖a8 31.♗b5 ♘c7=) 29...♖c1+ 30.♖d1 ♖xd1+ 31.♗xd1 ♖xb2 32.f4±

27.♖b4!+- ♖xb4 28.♗xc5 ♖b8 29.♗b6 ♗e6 30.♗xa6 ♘d7 31.♗e3 ♗xc3 32.bxc3 ♖b1+ 33.♔h2 ♘e5 34.♗e2 ♖a1 35.a6 h4 36.♖d8 ♗c4 37.♗xc4 ♘xc4 38.♗d4 g5 39.a7 ♘d2 40.a8=Q ♘f1+ 41.♔g1 1-0

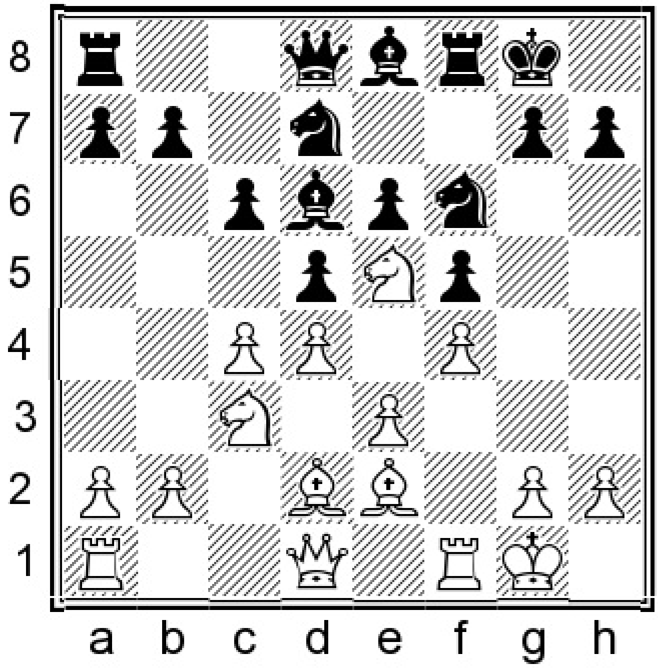
23. A85
Aronian, Levon (2782) - Giri, Anish (2777)
chess24.com (Int.-m/4-rapid) 150/23, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 c6 4.e3 ♗d6 5.♘c3 f5 6.♘e5 ♘f6 7.♗e2 O-O 8.O-O ♗d7

8...b6 - 104/171

8...♘bd7 - 81/(60)

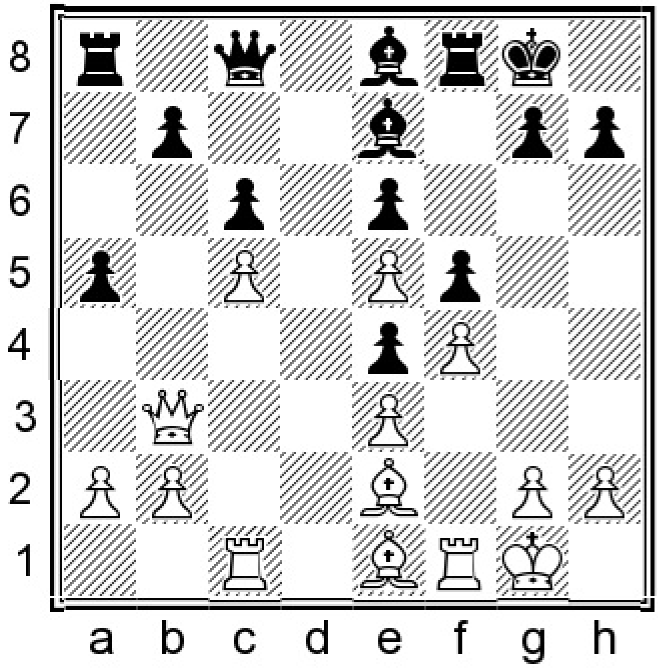
9.f4 ♗e8 10.♗d2 ♘bd7



11.♗e1N

11.♖b1; 11.c5

11...a5 12.♖c1 ♘e4 13.♘xe4 dxe4 14.c5 ♗e7 15.♕b3 ♘xe5 16.dxe5 ♕c8



17.♗g3!

17.g4 ♗f7∞

17...h6 18.♖fd1 ♔h7 19.♖d6

19.a4 ♗f7 20.♗e1 ♖d8 21.♖d6±

19...♗f7 20.a4 ♗xd6 21.cxd6

21.exd6? e5⇄

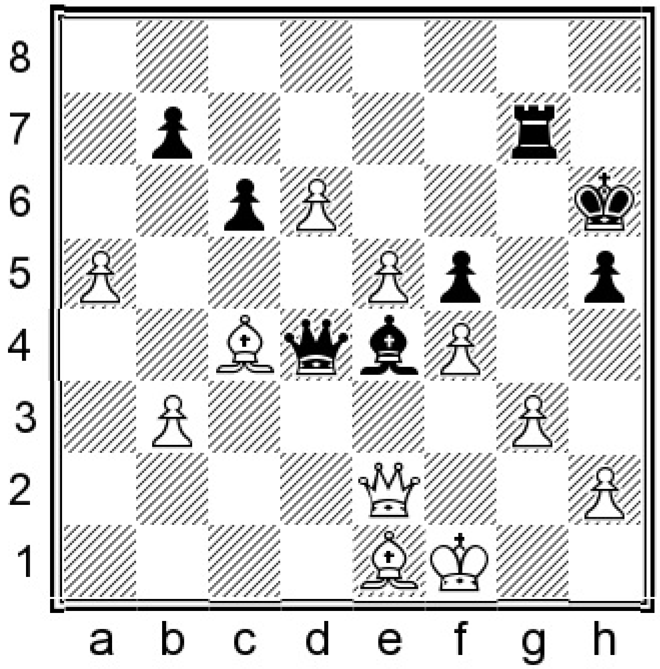
21...♖g8 22.♕b6 g5 23.♖c5 ♖g7 24.♖xa5 ♖xa5 25.♕xa5 ♕e8 26.♕b6 ♗h5 27.♗c4 ♗d1 28.b3 ♗c2 29.a5?!

29.fxg5 hxg5 30.♕a5 ♗d3 31.♗xd3 exd3 32.♕d2±

29...gxf4 30.exf4 ♕h5??

30...♗d3!∞

31.♕e3 ♕d1+ 32.♕e1 ♕d4+ 33.♗f2 ♕b2 34.♗xe6 e3 35.♕xe3 ♗e4 36.g3 ♕b1+ 37.♗e1 ♕d1 38.♗c4 h5 39.♕e2 ♕d4+ 40.♔f1 ♔h6



41.♕d2! ♕xd2 42.♗xd2 h4 43.e6 hxg3 44.hxg3 1-0

B00-B24

24. B00
Aronian, Levon (2782) - Carlsen, Magnus (2855)
chess24.com (Int.-m/4-rapid) 150/24, 2021

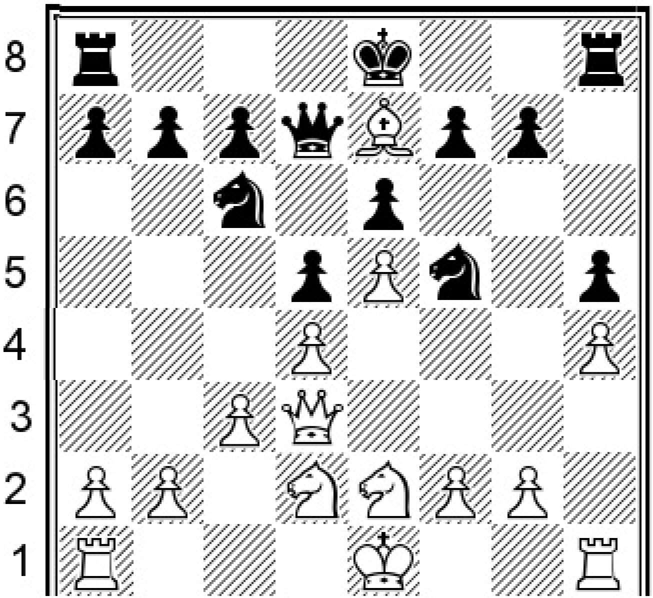
1.e4 ♘c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5 4.c3 e6 5.♗d3

5.♘f3 - 58/(119)

5...♘ge7 6.♘e2 h5

6...f6 7.exf6 (7.f4 h5 8.a4 (8.♕c2 h4 9.♘d2 ♕d7 10.h3 ♘d8 11.♘f3 ♘f7 12.O-O ♗xd3 13.♕xd3 ♘f5 14.♗e3 O-O-O 15.♗f2 ♗e7 16.c4 dxc4 17.♕xc4 g5⇄) 8...♘a5 9.b4 ♘c4 10.♘a3 ♗xd3 11.♕xd3 ♘xa3 12.♗xa3 ♕d7⇄) 7...gxf6 8.O-O ♕d7 9.♘g3 O-O-O 10.♘xf5 ♘xf5 11.♗xf5 exf5 12.♕f3 h5 13.♘d2 ♗d6 14.b4 ♘e7 15.♘b3 ♘g6 16.♘c5 ♗xc5 17.bxc5 ♖dg8 18.♔h1 ♖g7 19.♖g1 ♕e6 20.♗d2 ♕e4 21.♕h3 ♕g4 22.♕d3 ♕e4 23.♕b5 c6 24.♕b2 f4=

7.♗g5 ♕d7 8.h4 ♗xd3 9.♕xd3 ♘f5 10.♘d2 ♗e7 11.♗xe7?!



11.♘f3 ♗xg5 12.hxg5! O-O-O 13.♘f4 g6 14.b4 ♔b8 15.O-O h4 16.a4 h3 17.g3→

11...♘cxe7N

11...♕xe7

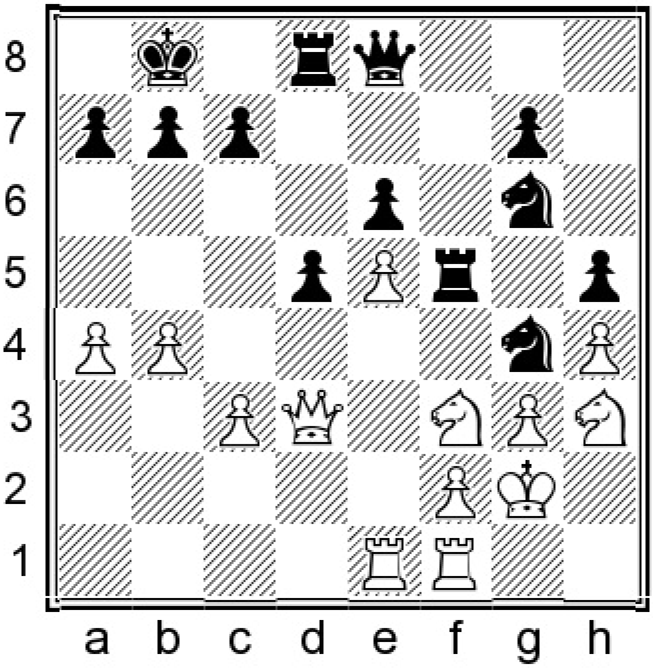
12.♘f3 O-O-O?!

12...♖c8! 13.g3 c5 14.O-O O-O=

13.a4 ♘g6 14.g3 f6 15.b4 ♔b8 16.O-O ♖hf8 17.♔h2?

17.a5 a6 18.♖ae1 ♖f7 19.♘c1 Δ Nb3-c5±

17...♕f7 18.♘eg1 ♘h6 19.♖ae1 ♘g4+ 20.♔g2 fxe5 21.dxe5 ♕e8 22.♘h3 ♖f5



23.♘hg5?

23.♕d1! ♕d7 24.a5 ♖df8 25.♘d4 ♖xe5 26.♖xe5 ♘6xe5 27.♕e2 ♕d6 28.a6+-

23...♘6xe5 24.♘xe5 ♘xe5 25.♕d4 ♘c6 26.♕d3?

26.♕xg7 e5 27.♕h7∞

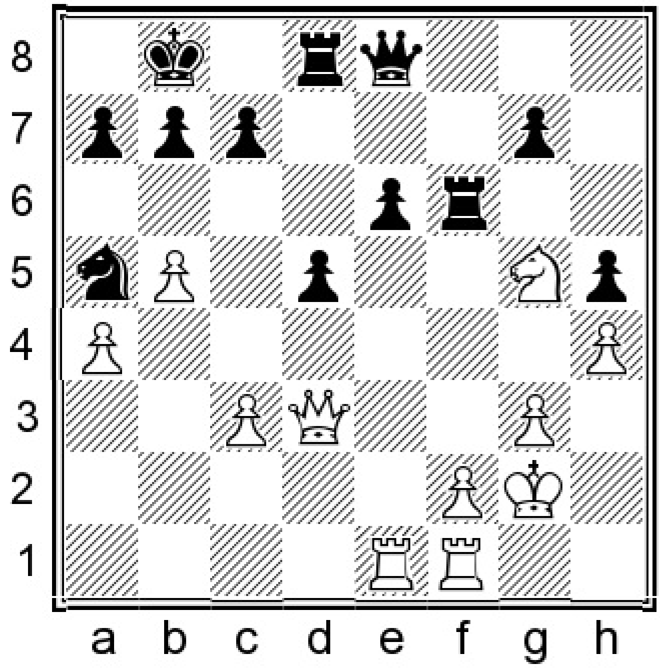
26...♖f6?

26...♕g6! 27.♕d1 e5 28.b5 ♘a5 29.f4 exf4 30.♕b1 ♕f6 31.♘h7 ♕f7 32.♘g5=

27.b5?!

27.f4! d4 28.f5 e5 29.♘e6 ♖xe6 30.fxe6 ♕xe6 31.b5+-

27...♘a5



28.♕h7?!

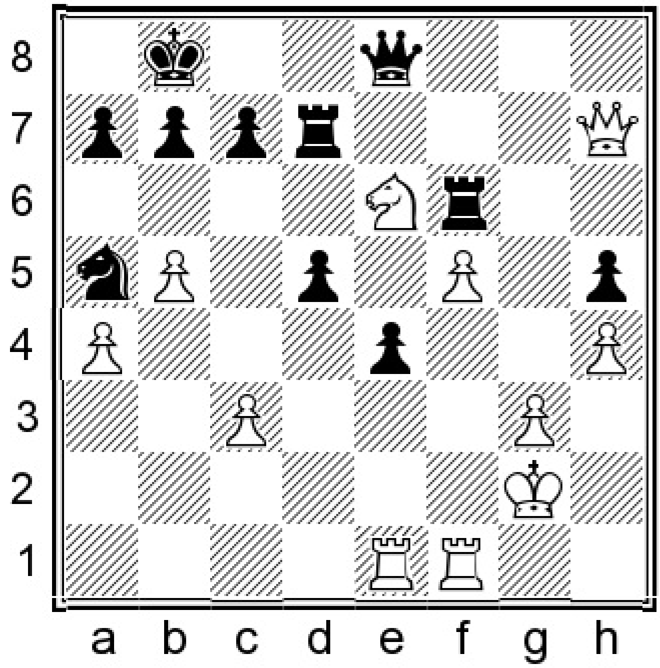
28.f4!±

28...e5 29.♕xg7 ♖f5 30.♕h7 ♖f8??

30...♖f6

31.f4!! e4 32.f5 ♕e5

32...♖f6 33.♘e6 ♖d7



34.♕g6!!+-

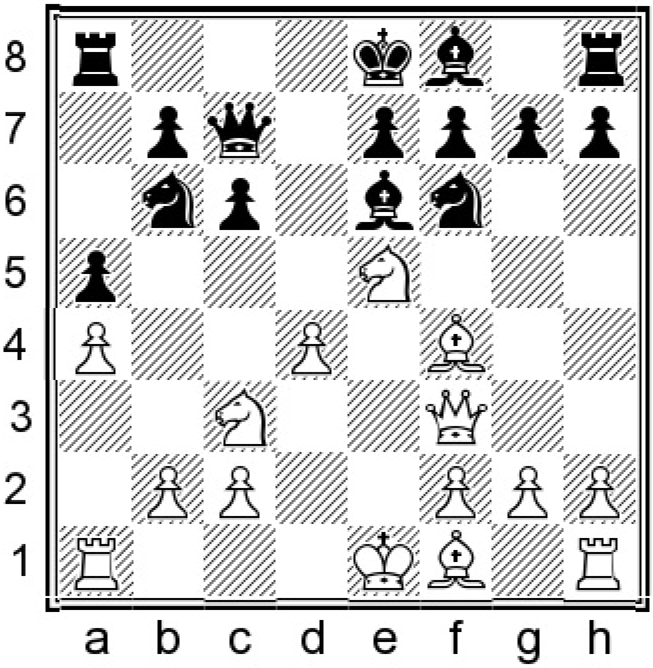
33.f6 ♕xc3 34.f7 ♘c4 35.♘e6 ♕d2+ 36.♔h3 ♘e5 37.♘xf8 ♘f3 38.♘d7+ ♔a8 39.♕xh5 ♘xe1 40.f8=Q 1-0

25. B01
Horvath, Dominik (2469) - Nisipeanu, Liviu Dieter (2651)
Oesterreich 150/25, 2021

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♕xd5 3.♘c3 ♕d6 4.d4 ♘f6 5.♘f3 c6 6.♘e5 ♘bd7 7.♘c4 ♕c7 8.a4

8.♕f3 - 116/29

8...♘b6 9.♘e5 a5 10.♕f3 ♗e6 11.♗f4



11...♘bd5!?N

11...♕c8 - 107/(31)

12.♘xd5

12.♗g3 ♕b6 13.♗c4!? g6 (13...♕xb2?! 14.♘xd5 ♘xd5 15.O-O↑) 14.O-O ♗g7 15.♘xd5 ♘xd5 16.c3±

12...♘xd5 13.♗c4

13.♘g6 ♘xf4 14.♘xf4 ♕d7 15.♗d3 ♗g4 16.♕e3 g6 17.h3 ♗f5 18.♗xf5 ♕xf5 19.♘d3 ♗g7 20.O-O O-O=

13...♕b6 14.♗g3? f6!

14...♕xb2? 15.O-O↑; 14...♕xd4 15.c3 ♕b6 16.O-O∞

15.♕h5+

15.♘d3 ♕xd4 16.♗a2 (16.♕e2 ♗f5 17.♗b3 (17.♗a2? ♘c3!) 17...♗xd3 18.♕xd3 ♕xd3 19.cxd3 h5-+)

16...♗g4-+

15...g6 16.♕e2

16.♘xg6 hxg6 17.♕xh8 ♕b4+ 18.c3 ♕xc4-+

16...fxe5 17.♕xe5 ♕b4+ 18.c3 ♕xc4 19.♕xh8

19.♕xe6 ♗g7-+

19...♘xc3! 20.♕e5

20.bxc3 ♕xc3+ 21.♔e2 ♗c4+-+

20...♗g7 0-1

26. * !N B03
Robson, Ray (2669) - Naroditsky, Daniel (2623)
USA (ch) 150/26, 2021

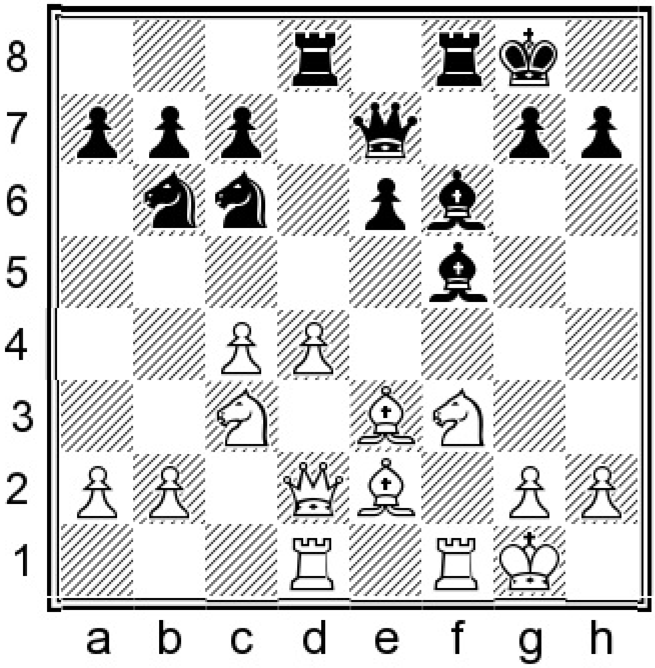
1.e4 ♘f6 2.e5 ♘d5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 ♘b6 5.f4

5.exd6 cxd6 6.♘c3 g6 7.♗e3 ♗g7 8.h3 O-O 9.♘f3 ♘c6 10.d5 ♘a5 11.♗d4 ♗xd4 12.♕xd4 e5 13.dxe6 ♗xe6 14.♗e2 ♘c6 15.♕f4 ♕e7=

5...dxe5 6.fxe5 ♘c6 7.♗e3 ♗f5 8.♘c3 e6 9.♘f3 ♗e7 10.♗e2

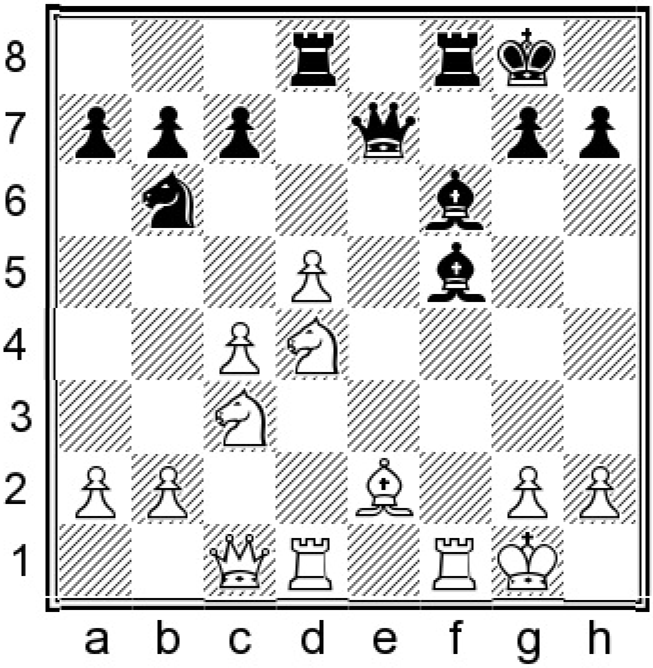
10.d5!? exd5 11.cxd5 ♘b4 12.♘d4 ♗d7 13.♕f3 c5 14.♘f5 ♘c2+ 15.♔d2 ♗xf5 16.♕xf5 ♘xe3 (16...♘xa1? 17.♗b5+ ♔f8 18.♖f1+-) 17.♗b5+ ♔f8 18.♔xe3 ♗g5+ 19.♔f2=

10...O-O 11.O-O f6 12.exf6 ♗xf6 13.♕d2 ♕e7 14.♖ad1 ♖ad8



15.♔h1!

15.♕c1?! e5 16.d5 (16.dxe5? - 11/108) 16...♘d4 17.♗xd4 (17.♘xd4 exd4 18.♗xd4 ♗g5 19.♕a1=) 17...exd4 18.♘xd4

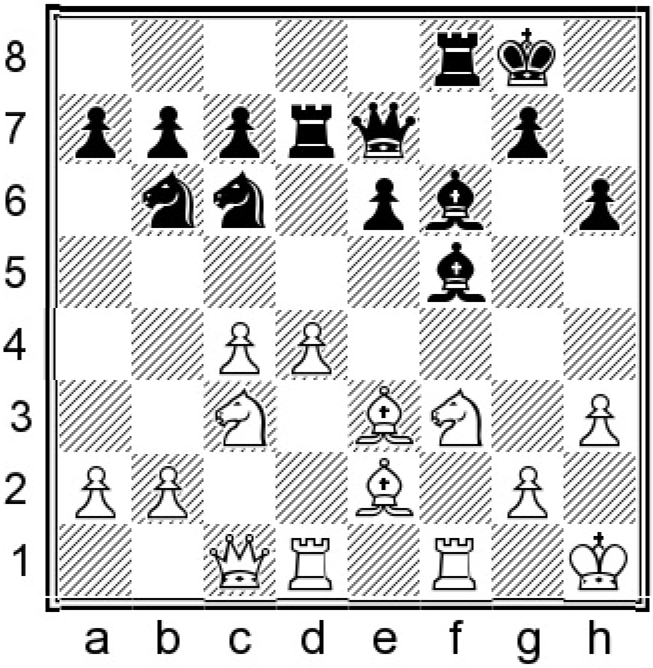


18...♗g5! 19.♕a1 ♗e3+ (19...♗d7! 20.♔h1 ♗f4⯹) 20.♔h1 ♗xd4 21.♖xd4 ♘a4 22.♘xa4 ♕xe2 23.♘c3 ♕e3 24.♖dd1 ♗d3 25.♖fe1 ♕d4 26.b3 ♖f2 27.♘e4 ♕xa1 28.♖xa1 ♗xe4 29.♖xe4 c6 30.♔g1±

15...h6

15...e5? 16.d5 ♘d4 17.♘xd4 exd4 18.♗xd4 ♗g5 19.♕e1+-

16.h3 ♖d7 17.♕c1!



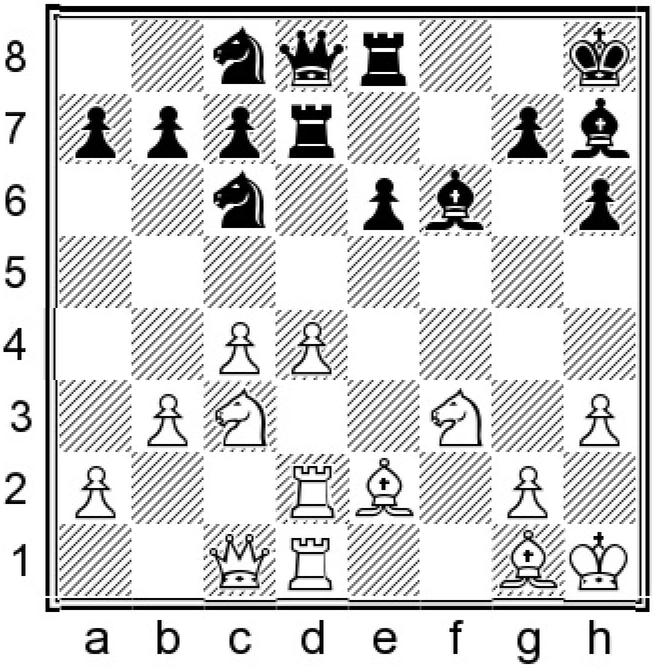
17.♕e1

17...♖e8N

17...♔h8 - 150/(26) 18.♗g1 ♖fd8 19.c5 ♘d5 20.♗b5 (20.♗c4!?) 20...♕e8 21.♖d2 ♕h5 22.♕e1 ♕g6 23.♕f2 a6 24.♗xc6 bxc6 25.♗h2 ♗d3 26.♖e1 ♘xc3 27.bxc3 ♗c4 28.♗e5 ♖g8 29.♖b2 ♗d5 30.♖e3 ♖f7 31.♗xf6 gxf6 32.♕e2 e5 33.dxe5 f5 34.c4 ♗e4 35.♕e1 ♕e6 36.♕h4 1/2 (36) Tritt, M-Schmidt,L corr 150/ (26) 2020

17...e5? 18.d5 ♘d4 19.♗xd4 exd4 20.♘xd4 ♗g5 21.♕a1+-

18.♖d2 ♕d8 19.♖fd1± ♔h8 20.b3 ♗h7 21.♗g1 ♘c8



22.d5! exd5 23.♘xd5 ♗e4

23...♗e5 24.♘xe5 ♘xe5 25.♗h5 ♖f8 26.♗d4 ♕g5 27.♖f2+-

24.♘xf6 ♖xd2 25.♘xd2 ♗xg2+ 26.♔xg2 ♖xe2+ 27.♔f1 ♖xd2 28.♖xd2 ♕xf6+ 29.♖f2 ♕d8 30.♕d2 ♕e8 31.♕f4 ♔g8 32.♕xc7 ♕e6 33.♕g3 ♘d6 34.♕g4 ♕e7 35.♗h2 ♘f7 36.♕c8+ ♔h7 37.♕c7 ♕e4 38.♕xf7 ♕h1+ 39.♔e2 ♕e4+ 40.♔f1 ♕h1+ 41.♔e2 ♕e4+ 42.♔d2 ♘d4 43.♕f4 ♕c2+ 44.♔e3 ♕c3+ 45.♔e4 ♘e6 46.♕f5+ ♔h8 47.♗e5 ♘g5+ 48.♕xg5 1-0

27. B12
Tari, Aryan (2646) - Fedoseev, Vladimir (2704)
Riga 150/27, 2021

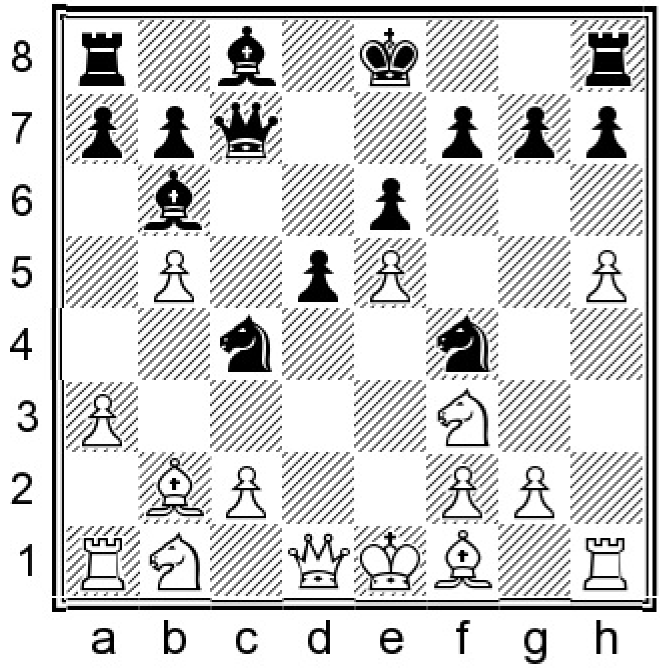
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.dxc5 e6 5.a3 ♗xc5 6.♘f3 ♘c6 7.b4 ♗b6 8.♗b2 ♘ge7

8...a5 - 136/44

9.♗d3 ♘g6 10.b5!?

10.O-O

10...♘a5 11.h4 ♕c7 12.h5 ♘f4 13.♗f1 ♘c4



14.♗d4?!

14.♗c3! g5! 15.g3 (15.hxg6 ♘xg6 16.♖h5 ♗d7 17.a4 a6∞) 15...g4 16.♘h2 (16.gxf4 gxf3 17.♕xf3 ♗d7 18.a4 a6=∞) 16...f5!? 17.gxf4 ♕c5 18.♕e2 ♗d7=∞

14...♗a5+N

14...g6? 15.♖h4!±

15.c3 f6 16.g3 fxe5 17.♘xe5 ♘xe5 18.gxf4 ♘f7 19.h6

19.♗xg7 ♖g8 20.h6 ♕xf4 21.♗d3 ♗d7∓

19...♕xf4 20.hxg7 ♖g8

20...♕e4+! 21.♕e2 ♕xd4 22.gxh8=Q+ ♕xh8 23.♕f3 ♗d7∓

21.♗e2 ♗d7 22.♖h3 e5 23.♗e3 ♕f6 24.♖f3 ♕e6 25.♕a4 ♗b6 26.♖g3 ♗xe3 27.fxe3 ♕h6 28.♘d2 ♘d6?

28...♖xg7 29.♖xg7 ♕xg7 30.O-O-O ♖c8∓

29.O-O-O ♕h2?

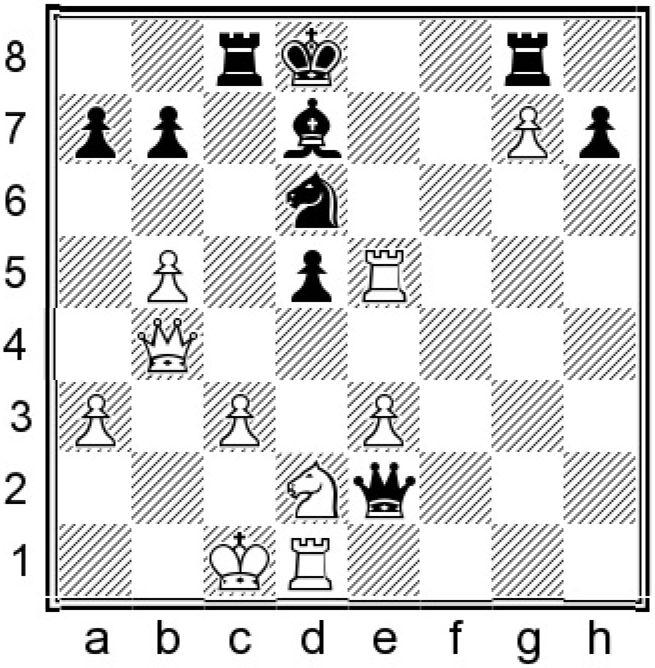
29...♖xg7 30.♖xg7 ♕xg7 31.♕b4 ♕h6∞

30.♖g5 ♖c8

30...O-O-O 31.♕xa7 ♕xe2 32.♕c5+ ♔b8 33.♕xd6+ ♔a8 34.♕xe5 h6 35.♖g3 ♕xb5 36.♕d4+-;

30...♕xe2 31.♖xe5+ ♔d8 32.♖xd5+-

31.♕b4 ♕xe2 32.♖xe5+ ♔d8



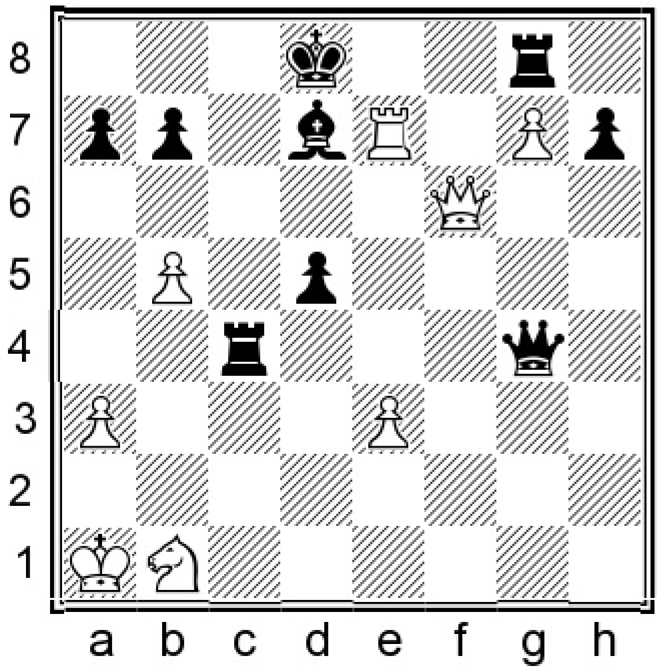
33.♕xd6?

33.b6!! ♖c6 (33...axb6 34.♕xb6+ ♖c7 35.♖f1!+-) 34.bxa7 ♔c7 35.♖e7 ♕d3 (35...♕a6 36.♖f1 ♕xa7 37.♖f8 ♖xg7 38.♖xg7 ♕xe3 39.♔d1+-) 36.♘b1 ♕f5 (36...♕a6 37.♖xd5 ♕xa7 38.♖xd6 ♖xd6 39.♕c4++-) 37.♕a5+ b6 38.a8=Q bxa5 39.♕xg8 ♖b6 40.e4! ♕g5+ (40...♘xe4 41.♕xd5 ♖xb1+ 42.♔c2+-) 41.♔c2 ♕xe7 42.♕xh7 ♕xe4+ (42...♘f5 43.g8=Q ♕xe4+ 44.♖d3 ♖h6 45.♕xh6 ♘xh6 46.♕xd5 ♗f5 47.♕xa5++-) 43.♕xe4 dxe4 44.♖xd6! ♖b8 45.♖g6 ♖g8 46.c4+-

33...♖xc3+ 34.♔b2 ♕d3 35.♘b1 ♕c2+?

35...♖b3+ 36.♔a1 ♕xd1 37.♕b8+ ♗c8 38.♕d6+ ♗d7=; 35...♖c2+ 36.♔a1 ♕xd1 37.♖e6 ♕g4 38.♕f8+ ♔c7 39.♕d6+=

36.♔a1 ♕xd1 37.♖e7 ♕g4 38.♕f6 ♖c4



39.b6?

39.♖e4+! ♔c7 40.♖xg4 ♖xg4 41.♘c3 b6 (41...♖4xg7 42.♘xd5+ ♔c8 43.♕c3++-) 42.♕e5+ ♔d8 (42...♔c8 43.♘xd5+-) 43.♕b8+ ♗c8 44.♕xa7+-

39...♕g6 40.♕f8+ ♗e8 41.bxa7 ♖a4 42.♖xb7 ♕xg7+! 43.♕xg7 ♖xg7 44.♖xg7 ♗d7 45.♖g8+ ♗e8 46.♖g7 ♗d7 47.♘c3

47.♖xh7 ♖xa7=

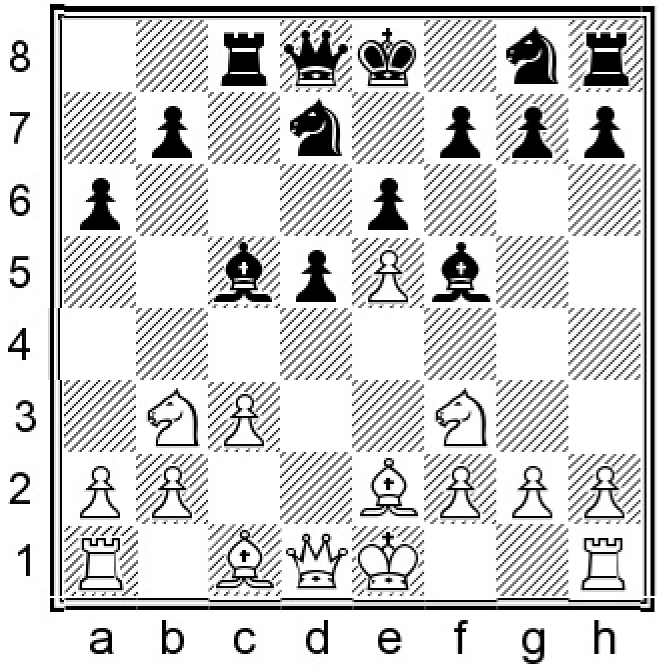
47...♖xa3+ 48.♔b2 ♖xa7 49.♘xd5 ♖b7+ 50.♔c3 ♗c6 51.♖xb7 1/2-1/2

28. B12
Ponkratov, Pavel (2627) - Triapishko, Olexandr (2510)
Russia 150/28, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5 4.♘d2 e6 5.♘b3 ♘d7 6.♘f3 a6 7.c3

7.♗e2 - 136/45

7...♖c8 8.♗e2 c5 9.dxc5 ♗xc5



10.♘fd4N

10.♘xc5 ♘xc5 11.♘d4 ♘e7 12.O-O ♕c7 13.f4 ♗e4 14.♗e3 ♘f5 15.♗f2 O-O∞

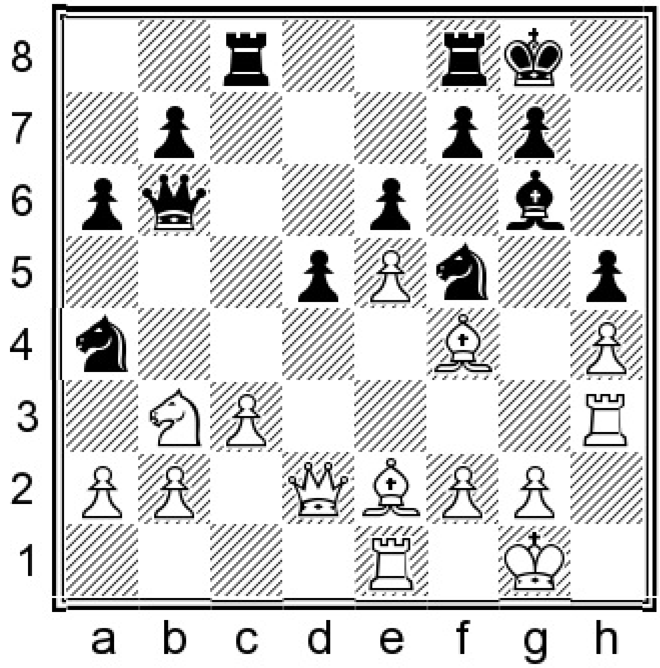
10...♗g6 11.h4 h5 12.♘xc5 ♘xc5 13.♖h3 ♘e7 14.♔f1 ♘f5 15.♔g1 ♕c7 16.♗f4

16.♘xf5 ♗xf5 17.♖e3 ♗g6

16...♕b6 17.♘b3 ♘a4

⌓17...O-O 18.♘xc5 ♖xc5 19.♕d2 d4!? 20.c4 (20.cxd4? ♘xd4!∓) 20...♕c6!? 21.b4 (21.♖c1 b5 22.cxb5 axb5 23.♖xc5 ♕xc5 24.♖b3 ♕d5 25.♖xb5 (25.♗xb5 ♘xh4∞ (25...♖a8!?)) 25...♕xa2∞) 21...♖xc4 22.♗xc4 ♕xc4 23.♖c1 ♕d5 24.♖c5 ♕d7=∞

18.♕d2 O-O 19.♖e1



19...♖c4! 20.♗xc4?!

20.g4! hxg4 21.♗xg4 d4 (21...♘xb2 22.h5 ♗h7 23.h6↑) 22.h5 ♗h7 23.♗e2 dxc3 24.bxc3 ♖e4 25.♗d3 ♖xe1+ 26.♕xe1↑

20...dxc4 21.♘c1 ♕xb2 22.♖d1

22.♕xb2 ♘xb2 23.♗g5 ♔h7↑

22...♕xd2 23.♖xd2 ♘e7

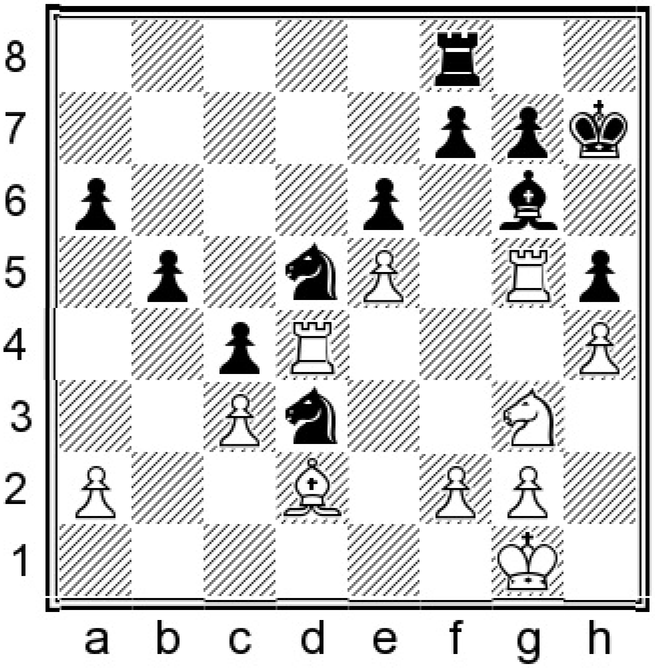
23...♖c8!? 24.♖d7 ♘c5 25.♖d1 ♘e7 Δ Nd5∓

24.♖g3 ♘d5 25.♖d4 b5∓ 26.♗d2 ♘c5 27.♘e2 ♘d3?!

27...♖c8!? Δ a5

27...♘e7! Δ Nf5∓

28.♖g5! ♔h7 29.♘g3



29...f6?

29...♖c8! 30.f4 (30.♘xh5? b4) 30...f6 31.exf6 gxf6 32.♖gxd5 exd5 33.♖xd5 b4 34.♖d7+ ♔h8 35.f5 ♗e8 36.♖b7∞

30.exf6 gxf6 31.♖gxd5 exd5 32.♖xd5 ♘e5 33.♖d6 ♖f7?

33...♖c8 34.♘e2↑

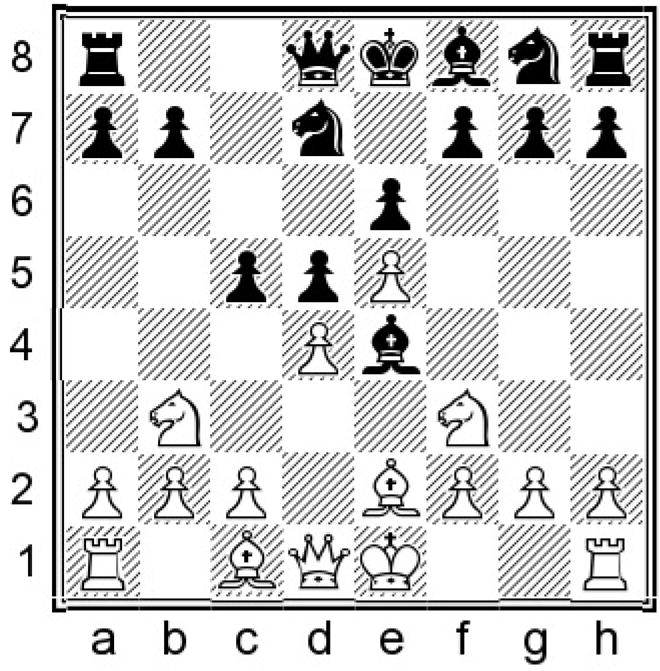
34.f4+- ♘g4 35.f5 a5 36.fxg6+ ♔xg6 37.♖d5 b4 38.cxb4 ♖c7 39.♘e2 axb4 40.♗xb4 ♘e5 41.♗c3 ♔f5 42.a4 ♖b7 43.♔f2 ♔e4 44.♖d4+ ♔f5 45.♔e3 ♖b3 46.♔d2 ♖a3 47.♖f4+ ♔e6 48.♗xe5 1-0

29. * B12
Lagno, Kateryna (2550) - Osmak, Iulija (2423)
Terme Catez 150/29, 2021

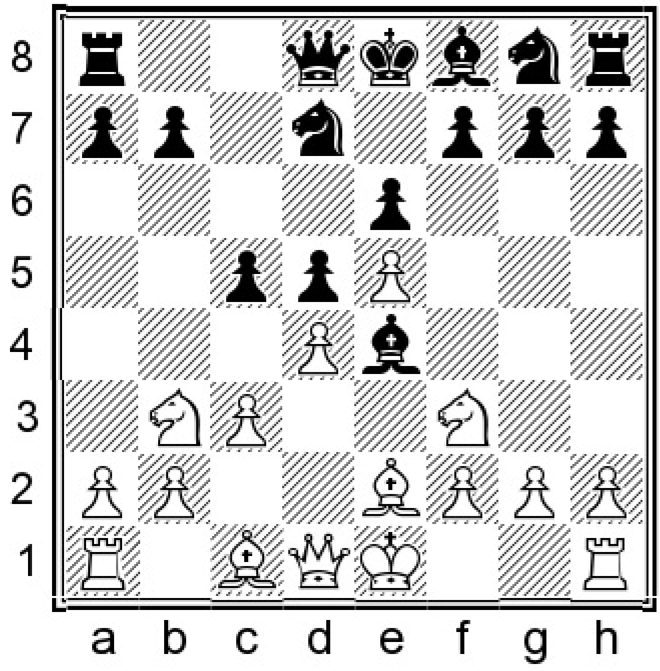
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5 4.♘d2 e6 5.♘b3 ♘d7 6.♘f3 ♗e4

6...♘e7 7.♗e2 h6 (7...♘c8 8.O-O ♗e7 9.a4 O-O 10.a5± - 108/198) 8.O-O g5 9.a4 ♗g7 10.a5 ♕c7 11.♗d2 f6 12.exf6 ♗xf6 13.♘e1±

7.♗e2 c5



8.c3



8...♘e7N

8...cxd4N - 150/(29) 9.cxd4 ♗b4+ 10.♗d2 ♗xd2+ 11.♕xd2 ♘e7 Fedorov,A (2532)-Petrosyan,M (2611) Chelyabinsk 150/(29) 2021

8...♖c8

9.♘xc5 ♘xc5 10.dxc5 ♘c6 11.♗e3 ♗xf3 12.♗xf3 ♘xe5 13.♗e2 ♗e7 14.♗b5+ ♘c6 15.O-O O-O 16.♕e2 ♕c7 17.♖ad1 ♖ad8 18.f4 ♗f6 19.♗xc6 bxc6 20.♗d4 ♕e7?!

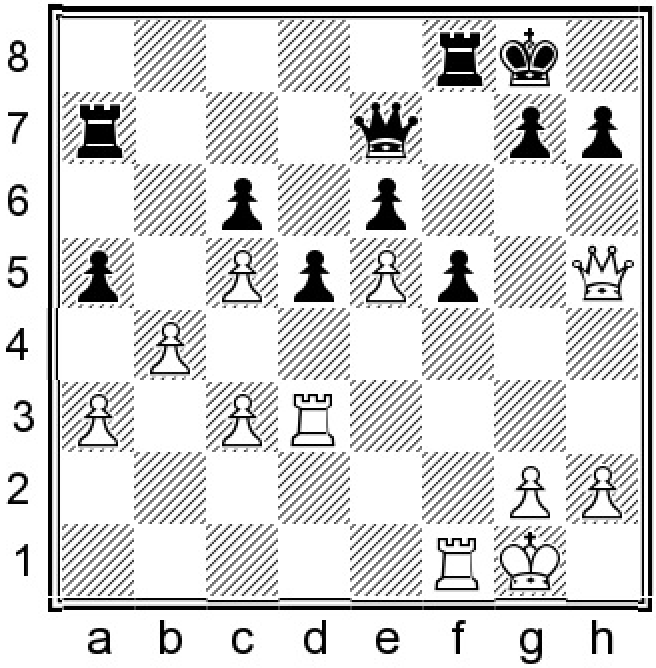
20...♗xd4+ 21.cxd4 (21.♖xd4 a5 22.a3 ♖fe8 23.b4 e5 24.fxe5 ♖xe5 25.♕a6 axb4 26.cxb4 ♖de8

27.♖df4 ♖e1⇄) 21...♖b8 22.b3 a5 23.♖d3 a4⇄

21.b4 ♖b8

21...a5 22.♗e5 ♗xe5 23.fxe5 axb4 24.cxb4 ♖a8 25.♖f3 ♖a4 26.a3 ♖fa8 27.♖dd3 ♕g5=

22.♗e5 ♗xe5 23.fxe5 a5 24.a3 ♖a8 25.♖d3 ♖a7 26.♕h5 f5?



26...axb4 27.cxb4 ♖fa8=

27.exf6! gxf6 28.♖g3+ ♔h8 29.♕h6 ♕f7?

29...♕d8 30.♖e3 e5 31.♖xe5 d4 32.c4 d3 33.♖e4 axb4 34.axb4 d2 35.♖d1 f5 36.♖e2 ♖a1 37.♕xf8+ ♕xf8 38.♖xa1 ♕d8 39.♖d1 ♕d4+ 40.♔h1 ♕xc4 41.♖exd2 ♕xb4 42.♖f2 ♕xc5 43.♖df1 h6 44.♖xf5±

30.♖g6 f5 31.♖xe6 axb4 32.axb4 ♖a2 33.♖xc6 ♖g8 34.g3 ♖e8 35.♖f6 ♕g7 36.♕xg7+ ♔xg7 37.♖6xf5 ♖c2 38.♖1f2 ♖xc3 39.♖xd5 ♖b3 40.♖d4 ♖e1+ 41.♔g2 1-0

30. B12
Vucinic, Gojko (2349) - Miladinovic, Igor (2536)
Srbija 150/30, 2021

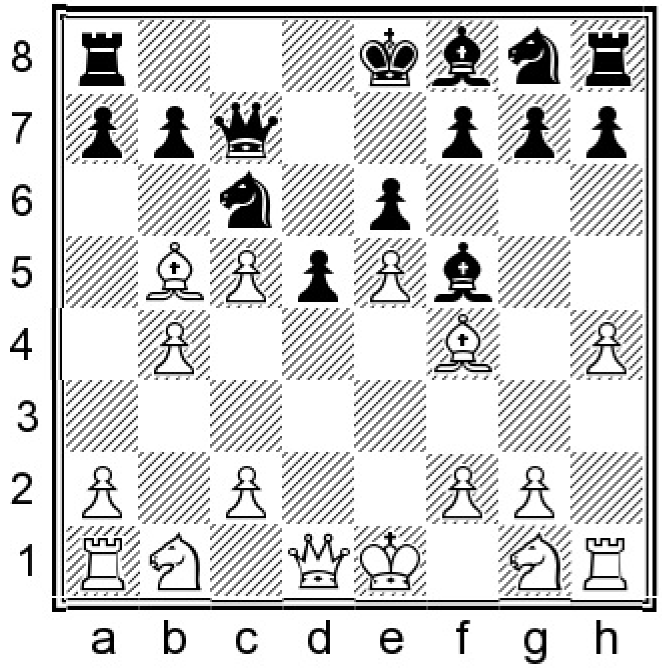
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5 4.h4 c5!? 5.dxc5 ♘c6 6.♗b5 ♕c7 7.♗f4

7.♘e2 - 123/46

7...e6

7...O-O-O

8.b4



8...a5N

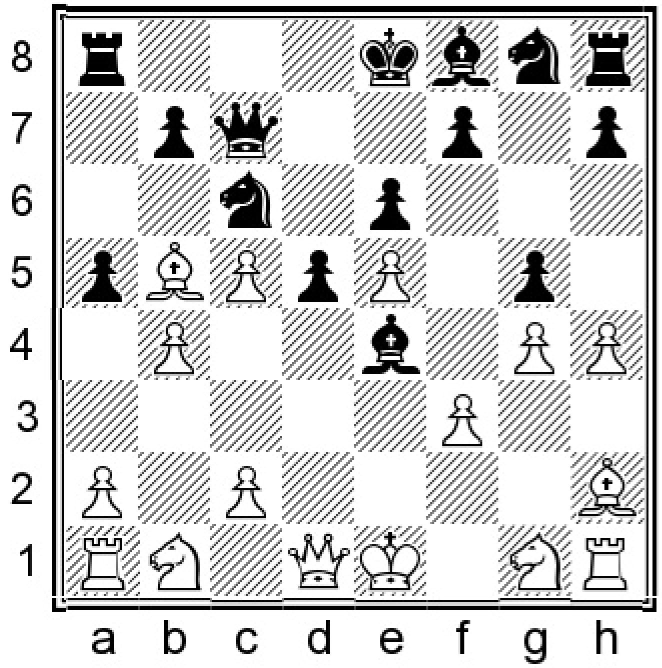
8...a6

9.g4 g5! 10.♗h2

10.hxg5 ♗e4 11.f3 ♗g6⩱

10...♗g7?

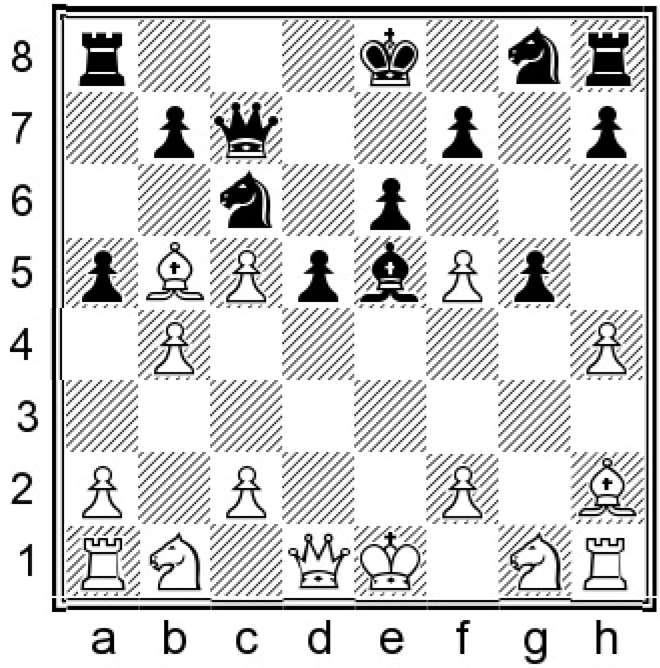
10...♗e4! 11.f3



11...O-O-O! (11...♗g6?! 12.h5 axb4 13.♘d2 ♗xc5 14.♘b3 ♗e3 15.♕e2 d4 16.♕c4! (16.hxg6 hxg6⩱)

16...♘e7 17.♘e2±) 12.fxe4 (12.a3 h5! 13.♘c3 (13.fxe4? dxe4 14.♕c1 ♘d4 15.♗a4 hxg4∓) 13...♗g6∞) 12...dxe4 13.♕c1 ♘h6!? (13...axb4⩱)

11.gxf5 ♗xe5



12.fxe6! O-O-O

12...♗xh2 13.exf7+ ♔xf7 14.♕xd5+ ♔f8 15.♕f5+ ♔e8 16.♘d2+-

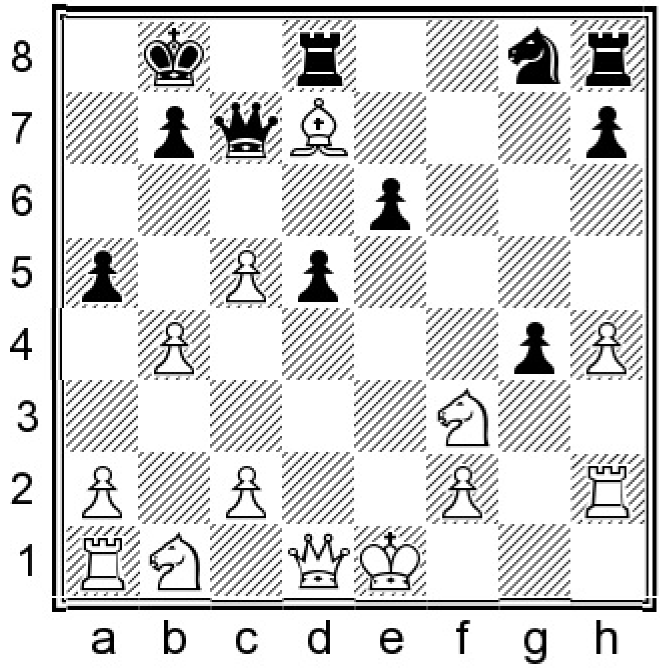
13.♗xc6 ♗xh2

13...bxc6 14.♗xe5 ♕xe5+ 15.♕e2+-

14.♗d7+ ♔b8 15.♘f3 fxe6

15...♗e5 16.♘bd2+-

16.♖xh2 g4



17.♕d4! gxf3 18.♕xh8 ♘e7

18...♕xh2 19.♗b5+-

19.♕f6 ♕xh2 20.♗b5+-

20.♕xe7? ♕e5+ 21.♔d2 ♕e2+ 22.♔c1 ♕e1+ 23.♔b2 ♕xb4+ 24.♔c1 ♕e1+=

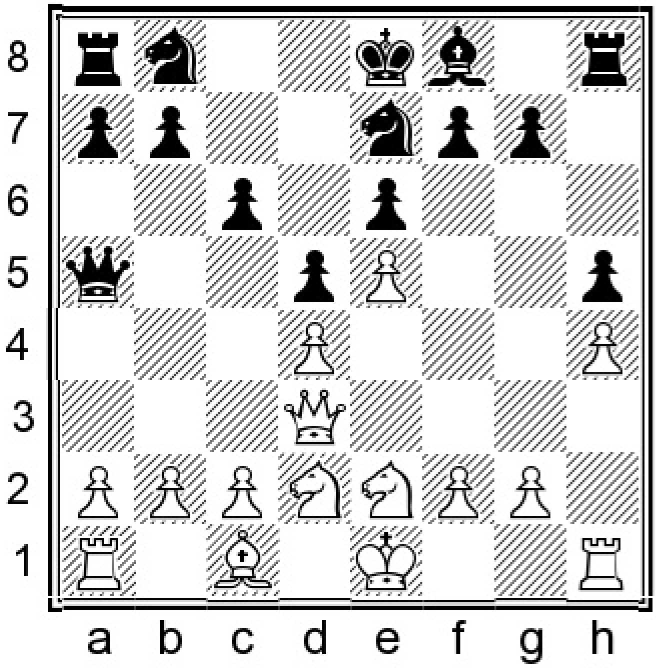
20...♖g8 21.♘d2 ♖g1+ 22.♗f1 ♖g6 23.♘xf3 ♖xf6 24.♘xh2 axb4 25.♗e2 ♖f4 26.♘f3 ♘c6 27.♖d1 h6 28.♔f1 ♔c7 29.♔g2 ♖e4 30.♗d3 ♖g4+ 31.♔h3 ♖f4 32.♔g3 ♖f8 33.♖e1 ♖g8+ 34.♔h3 ♖f8 35.♔g2 ♖g8+ 36.♔f1 ♖f8 37.♘e5 ♘d4 38.♖b1 ♘c6 39.♘xc6 bxc6 40.♖xb4 e5 41.♖g4 1-0

31. B12
Caruana, Fabiano (2800) - Firouzja, Alireza (2770)
Riga 150/31, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5 4.h4 h5 5.♗d3 ♗xd3 6.♕xd3 ♕a5+ 7.♘d2 e6 8.♘e2

8.♘f3 - 133/46

8...♘e7



9.b4!?N

9.O-O

9...♕a6

9...♕xb4?! 10.♖b1 ♕a5 11.♖xb7± ♕xa2? 12.♗a3 ♘c8 13.♕f3 ♘d7 (13...♗e7 14.♖xe7+! ♘xe7 15.♕c3 c5 16.♘c1 cxd4 17.♕c5+-) 14.♖xd7 ♔xd7 15.♕xf7+ ♗e7 16.♘b3! ♕xa3 17.♘c5+ ♔c7 (17...♔d8 18.♘xe6+ ♔d7 19.O-O→) 18.O-O→

10.♕b3! ♘f5 11.♘f3 ♘d7 12.a4 ♕c4

12...♗e7 13.c3 Δ♕c4 14.♕xc4 dxc4 15.a5⩲

13.♗d2

13.♕xc4 dxc4 14.♗d2⩲ (14.c3?! a5 15.b5 c5↑)

13...♕xb3 14.cxb3 f6?!

14...♗e7 15.g3 b6∞

15.O-O ♗e7 16.g3 ♔f7 17.♖fe1 fxe5 18.dxe5 ♖ac8

18...c5 19.♘f4! (Δ Nd5!) 19...d4 20.bxc5 ♘xc5 21.♗b4±

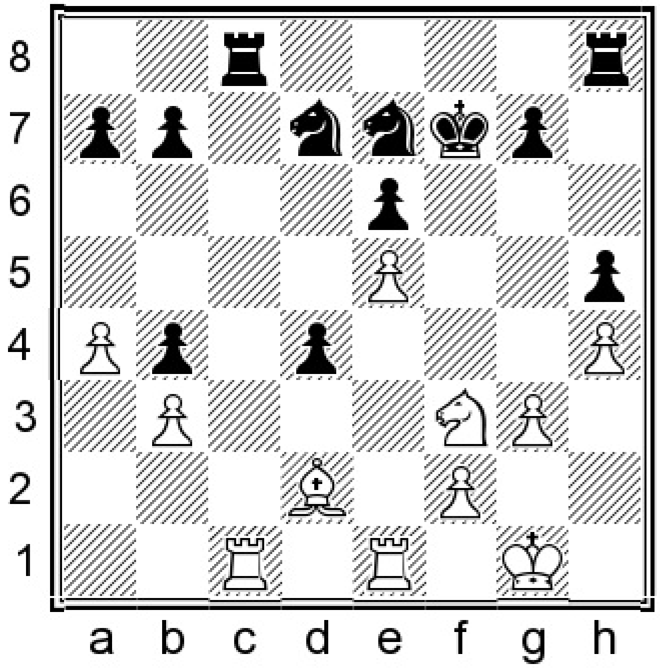
19.♘f4 d4 20.♖ac1 c5 21.♘d5!

21.♖c4!? ♘b6 (21...cxb4 22.♖ec1±) 22.♖xc5! ♗xc5 23.bxc5 ♖xc5 24.♘g5+ ♔e8 25.♘gxe6 ♖c2 26.♗a5±

21...cxb4

21...♔g6! 22.♘xe7+ ♘xe7 23.bxc5 ♘xc5 24.♘xd4 ♘f5±

22.♘xe7 ♘xe7



23.♘g5+?!

23.♗xb4! ♘d5 (23...♘c6 24.♗d6±) 24.♗d6 d3 25.♖cd1 ♖c3 26.♘g5+ ♔g6 27.♘xe6 ♖xb3 28.♘d4 ♖c3 29.♘f3±

23...♔g6 24.♖xc8 ♖xc8 25.♘xe6 ♘c6 26.f4

26.♘f4+ ♔f5 27.e6 ♘c5 28.♘xh5 ♘xe6∞

26...♔f5 27.♘xg7+ ♔g6 28.♘e6 ♔f5 29.♘g5 ♘c5 30.♘f7 ♔e6 31.♘d6 ♖g8 32.♔g2

32.f5+ ♔d5 33.♗f4 ♘d3 34.♘e4! ♘xe1 35.♘f6+ ♔c5 36.♘xg8 ♘xe5! 37.♔f1 ♘1d3 38.♘f6 a5∞

32...♔d5 33.♖b1 ♘e4

33...a5∞

34.♘xe4 ♔xe4 35.♖c1 ♔d3

35...a5! 36.e6 ♖g6 (36...♔d3? 37.♖xc6! bxc6 38.f5+-) 37.♖e1+ ♔d3 38.♗c1 ♘e7 39.f5!? (39.♗b2 ♔d2 40.♖e5 d3⇄) 39...♘xf5 40.e7 ♘xe7 41.♖xe7 ♔c2 42.♗f4 ♔xb3 43.♖xb7∞

36.♗e1 ♔e2?

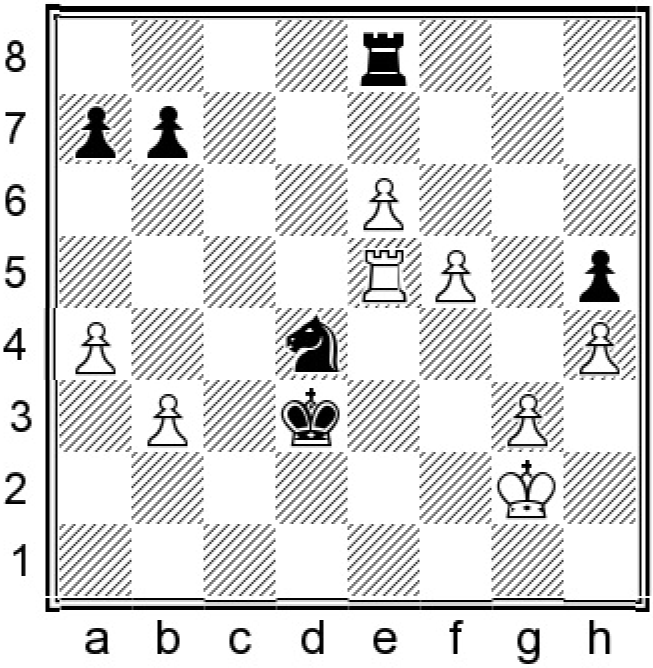
36...♔e3 37.♗f2+ ♔e4∞

37.e6 d3 38.f5 ♘d4

38...♖f8? 39.♖xc6! bxc6 40.e7 ♖e8 41.f6 ♔xe1 42.f7 ♖xe7 43.f8=Q ♖e2+ 44.♔g1!+-; 38...d2

39.♗xd2 ♔xd2 40.♖xc6 bxc6 41.f6+-; 38...♖e8 39.♖xc6 bxc6 40.♗xb4 c5! 41.♗c3 d2 42.♗xd2 ♔xd2 43.g4! hxg4 44.h5 ♔c3 45.h6 ♔xb3 46.f6 ♖xe6 47.f7 ♖f6 (47...♖xh6 48.f8=Q+-) 48.h7 ♖xf7 49.h8=Q+-

39.♗xb4 d2 40.♗xd2 ♔xd2 41.♖c5 ♖e8 42.♖e5 ♔d3



43.♔f2!

43.e7! ♘c6 44.♖d5+ ♔e4 45.f6!! ♘xe7 46.♖d1 ♔f5 47.fxe7 ♖xe7 48.♔f3+-

43...♖e7

43...♔c3 44.e7 ♘c6 45.♖c5+ ♔xb3 46.♖xc6 ♖xe7 47.♖e6 ♖f7 48.f6 ♔xa4 49.♔f3 b5 (49...a5 50.♖b6+-) 50.♖a6+ ♔b3 51.♔f4 ♔c4 52.♔f5 b4 53.♔g6 b3 (53...♖b7 54.f7+-; 53...♖f8 54.♖xa7+-) 54.♔xf7 b2 55.♔g8 b1=Q 56.f7+-

44.g4!! hxg4 45.♔g3 ♖e8

45...♘f3 46.f6+-

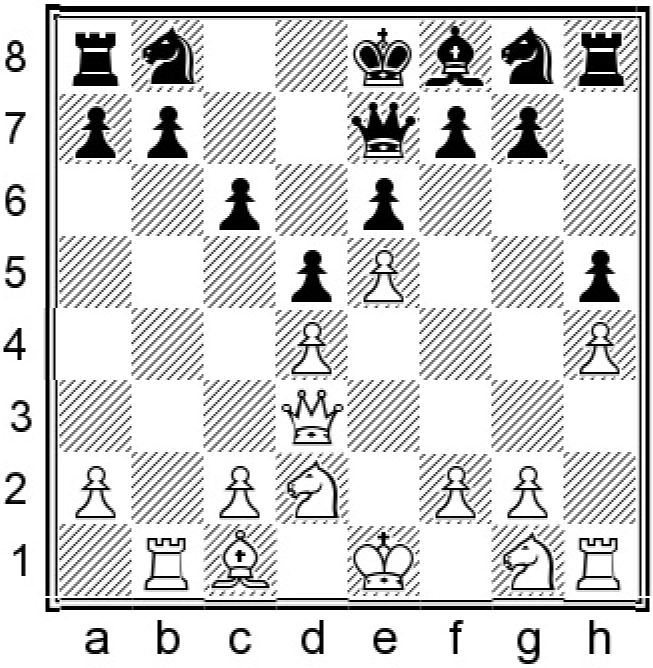
46.♔xg4 ♘c6 47.♔f4! ♘e7 48.f6 ♘g6+ 49.♔f5 ♘xh4+ 50.♔g5 ♘f3+ 51.♔f4 ♘d4 52.e7 ♘c6 53.f7 ♖xe7 54.♖d5+ 1-0

32. * B12
Pichot, Alan (2628) - Gretarsson, Hjorvar Steinn (2577)
Riga 150/32, 2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5 4.h4 h5 5.♗d3 ♗xd3 6.♕xd3 ♕a5+ 7.b4!?

7.♘d2 - 133/46

7...♕xb4+ 8.♘d2 e6 9.♖b1 ♕e7



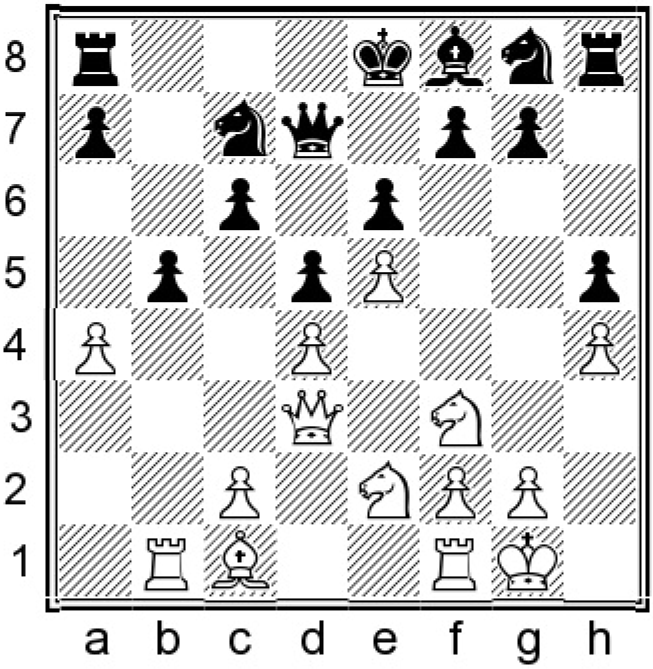
10.♘e2N

10.c4; 10.♘gf3

10...b5! 11.♘f3 ♘a6 12.O-ON

12.♘f4 - 150/(32) 12...♘c7 13.♘g5= Cheparinov,I (2659)-Anton Guijarro,D (2658) Espana 150/(32) 2021

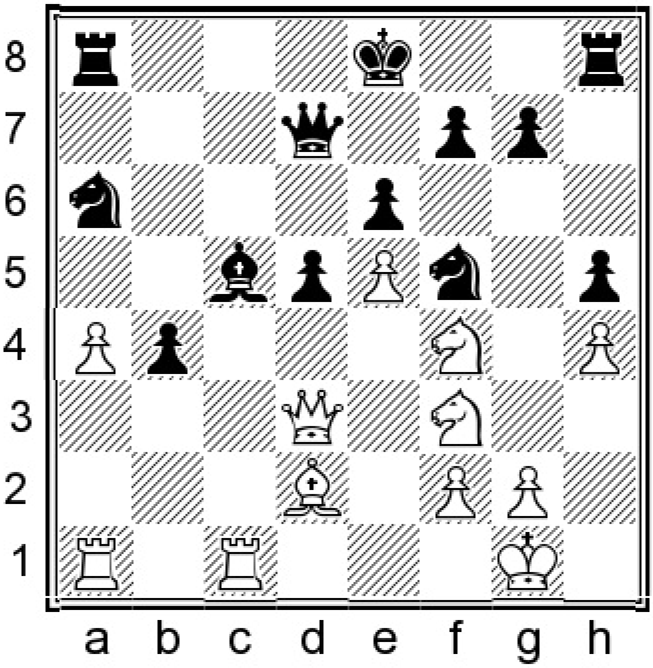
12...♘c7 13.a4⯹ ♕d7



14.♘f4

14.♘g5! ♘h6 (14...♗e7 15.♕f3=∞; 14...g6 15.♕f3 ♘h6 16.♕f6! ♖g8 17.♘h7 ♘f5 18.♘xf8 ♖xf8 19.♘g3 ♕d8 20.♘xf5 ♕xf6 21.♘d6+ ♔d7 22.exf6 ♔xd6 23.♗a3+ ♔d7 24.♗xf8 ♖xf8 25.f3! Δ g4±) 15.♘h7! ♘f5 (15...♗e7? 16.♗xh6 gxh6 17.♘f4+-) 16.♘xf8 ♔xf8 17.♗g5=∞

14...a5 15.♗d2 ♘e7 16.♖a1 b4 17.c3 ♘f5 18.cxb4 axb4 19.♖fc1 ♘a6∓ 20.♕c2 c5 21.dxc5 ♗xc5 22.♕d3!



22...g6? [×h5]

22...O-O! 23.♘xh5 ♕a7! 24.♗e1 (24.♖f1 ♗e7!; 24.g4 ♗xf2+ 25.♔h1 ♘xh4) 24...♗e7! Δ Nc5-e4

23.♕b5! ♘d4

23...♗e7 24.♖c6!+- Δ♘c7 25.♕b7

24.♘xd4 ♗xd4 25.♖ab1 ♗xe5 26.♘d3

26.♖c6 ♘c7 27.♕b7 O-O 28.♘d3 ♗d6 29.♗xb4+-

26...♗c3

26...♗d6 27.♖c6+-; 26...♗f6 27.♖c6+-

27.♗xc3 bxc3 28.♖xc3 ♖b8

28...♕xb5 29.axb5 O-O 30.bxa6 ♖xa6 31.♖b7+-

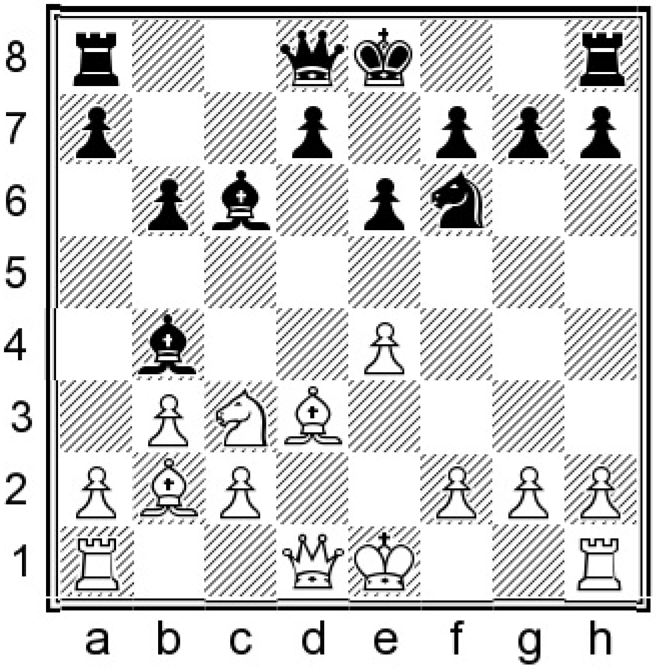
29.♕xb8+ ♘xb8 30.♖xb8+ ♔e7 31.♖xh8 ♕xa4 32.♖hc8 ♔f6 33.♘c5 ♕d1+ 34.♔h2 ♕d4 35.♖f3+ ♔g7 36.g3 ♕e5 37.♖f8 f5 38.♖e3 ♕b2 39.♘xe6+ ♔h6 40.♔g2 1-0

33. * B20
Antipov, Mikhail Al (2619) - Morovic Fernandez, Ivan (2510)
Riga 150/33, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.b3 b6 4.♗b2 ♗b7 5.♘c3 ♘c6 6.d4 cxd4 7.♘xd4 ♘f6

7...♗c5 - 65/178

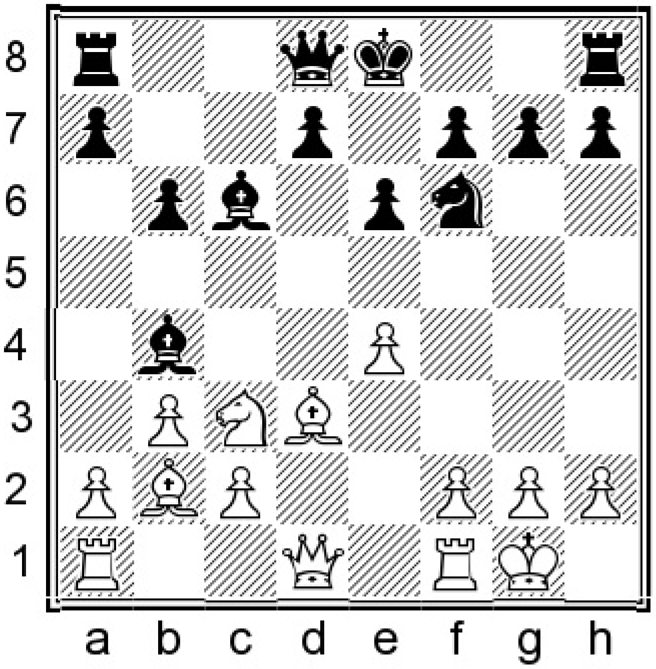
8.♘xc6 ♗xc6 9.♗d3 ♗b4



8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

10.♕f3!?N

10.O-O



8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

- 150/(33) 10...♕c7N (10...O-O) 11.♕e2 ♕e5 12.♘d1 ♕h5 13.♕xh5 ♘xh5 14.g3 ♘f6 15.a3 ♗e7 16.♖e1 b5 17.♘c3 a6= Martin Barcelo, C (2619)-Msellek,I (2510) Barcelona 150/(33) 2021

10...♕b8?!

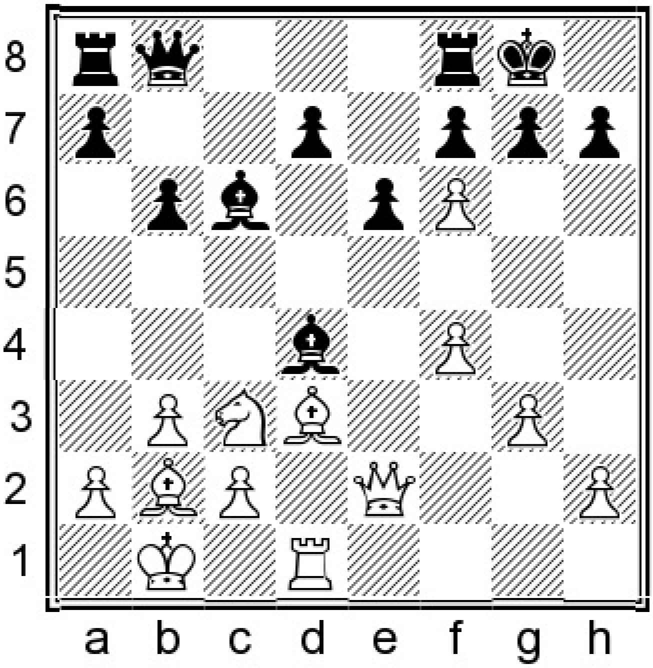
10...♕c7 11.O-O-O ♖c8 12.♘e2 Δ Nd4±

11.O-O-O ♗d6

11...♕e5!? 12.♘e2 ♕c5 (12...♕g5+ 13.♔b1 ♕g4 14.♕e3 ♗c5 15.♗d4±) 13.♔b1 ♗a3 14.♗a1 a5⇄

12.g3 ♗e5 13.♕e3 ♘g4 14.♕e2 ♘f6 15.f4 ♗d4 16.♔b1 O-O 17.e5! ♗xc3

17...♗xh1 18.exf6 ♗c6

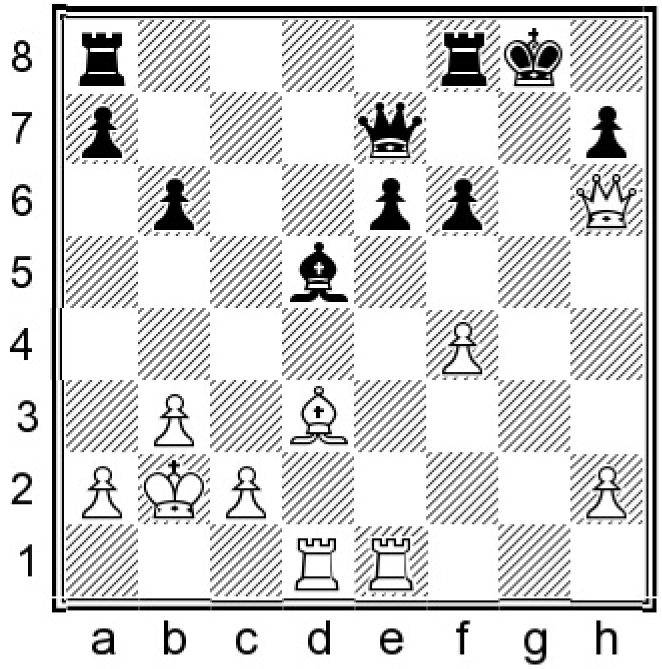


19.♗xh7+! ♔xh7 20.♕h5+ ♔g8 21.♘d5!+-

18.exf6 ♗xb2 19.♔xb2 gxf6

19...g6 20.♖hf1±

20.♕g4+ ♔h8 21.♕h4 f5 22.♕f6+ ♔g8 23.g4! ♕d8 24.♕h6 f6 25.gxf5 ♕e7 26.♖he1 ♗d5 27.fxe6 dxe6


8
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2
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a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

28.♗xh7+!

28.♗xh7+ ♕xh7 29.♖g1+ ♔h8 30.♕xh7+! ♔xh7 31.♖d3 Δ Rh3+-

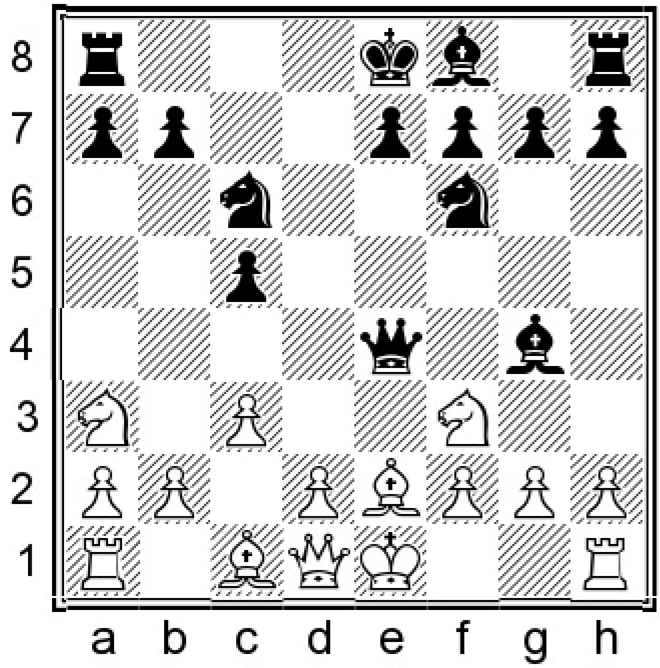
1-0

34. B22
Pap, Misa (2384) - Vucinic, Gojko (2349)
Srbija 150/34, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 ♕xd5 4.♘f3 ♘f6 5.♘a3 ♘c6 6.♗c4 ♕e4+?!

6...♕d8 - 140/(48)

7.♗e2 ♗g4


8
7
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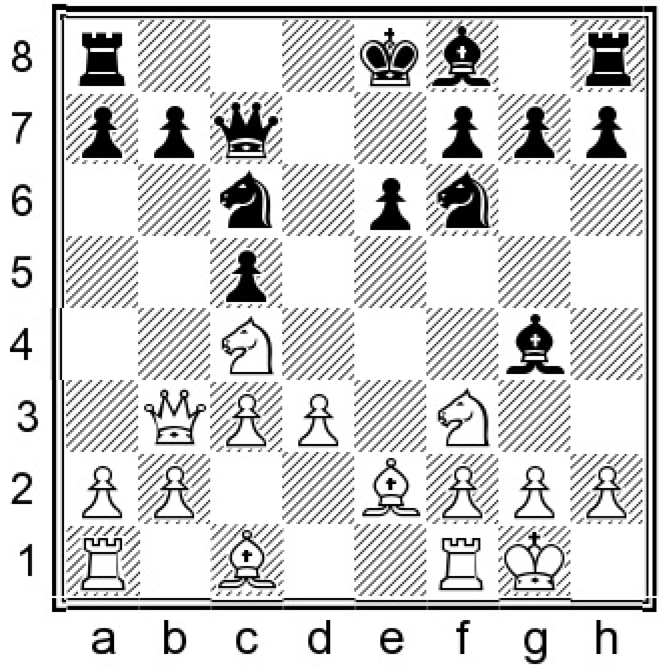
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

8.d3N

8.O-O

8...♕d5 9.♘c4 ♕d7 10.O-O e6 11.♕b3 ♕c7?


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

11...♗xf3 12.♗xf3 ♗e7 13.♗f4↑

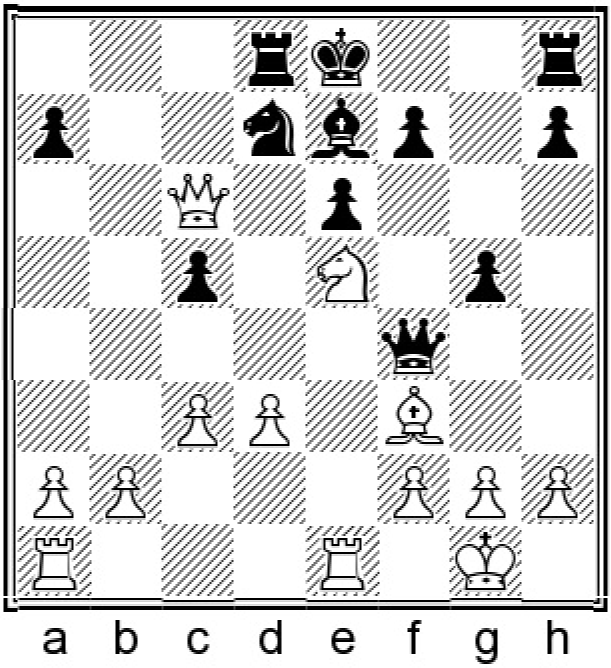
12.♗f4! ♕xf4

12...♕d7? 13.♘fe5+-; 12...♕c8 13.♖fe1 ♗e7 14.♘d6+ ♗xd6 15.♗xd6 b6 16.d4

13.♕xb7 ♖d8 14.♕xc6+ ♘d7 15.♖fe1

15.♘fe5!? ♗xe2 16.♖fe1 ♗h5 17.♘xd7 ♖xd7 18.♘e5+-

15...♗xf3 16.♗xf3 ♗e7 17.♘e5 g5



17...♗f6 18.♘xd7 ♖xd7 19.♕b5 ♔e7 20.♕xc5+ ♕d6 21.♕xd6+ ♖xd6 22.d4+-

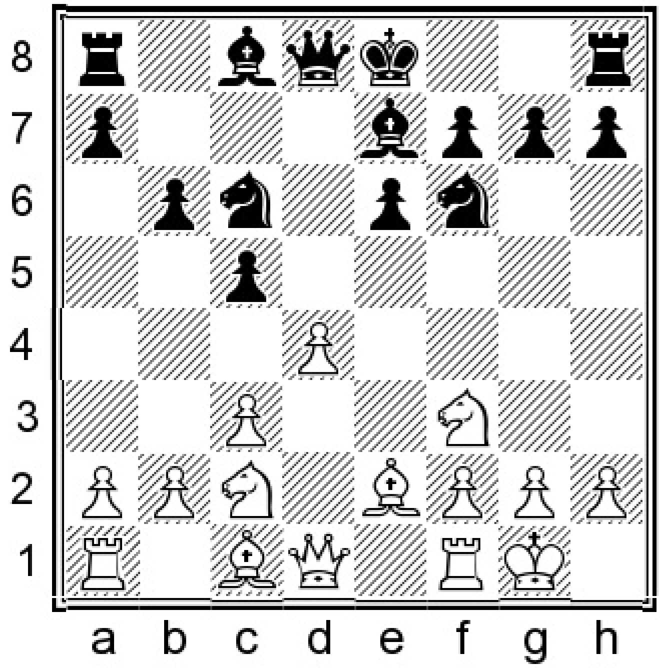
18.♗h5! ♖f8 19.♖e4 ♕f5 20.g4 ♕f6 21.♖ae1Θ ♗d6 22.♘xd7 ♖xd7 23.♖xe6+ ♕xe6 24.♖xe6+ 1-0

35. B22
Terao, Juliana Sayumi (2252) - Alboredo, Julia (2183)
Brazil (ch) 150/35, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 ♕xd5 4.d4 ♘c6 5.♘f3 ♘f6 6.♗e2 e6 7.♘a3 ♕d8 8.♘c2 b6 9.O-O

9.♗b5 - 28/310

9...♗e7?!



9...♗b7

10.♗b5N

10.♘e5 ♘xe5 11.dxe5 ♘d7 12.f4 O-O 13.♖f3 ♕c7 14.♘e3 ♗b7 15.♖h3 ♖fd8 16.♗d3 g6 17.♕e2 ♖ac8=; 10.dxc5! bxc5 (10...♕xd1 11.♖xd1 bxc5 12.♗b5 ♗b7 (12...♗d7? 13.♖xd7) 13.♘e5 ♖c8 14.♘c4 O-O 15.♗f4±) 11.♕xd8+ ♗xd8 12.♖d1± (12.♗b5±)

10...♗d7

10...♗b7 11.♘e5↑

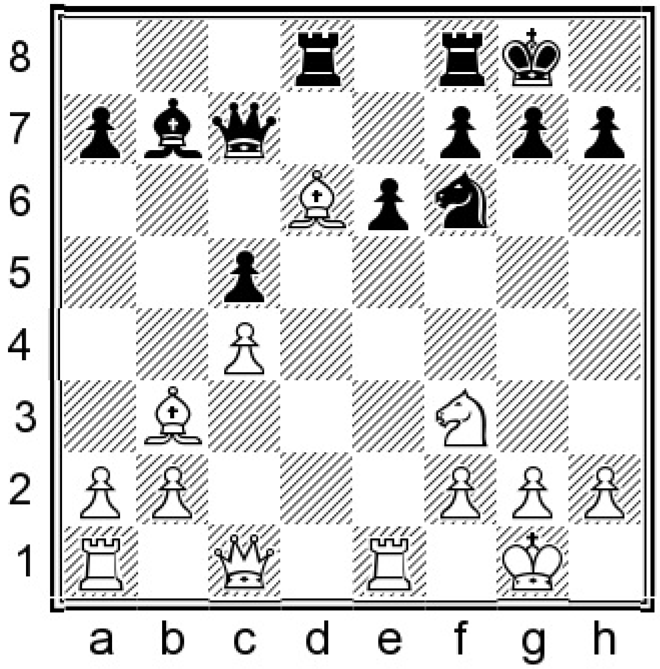
11.dxc5 bxc5 12.♘e3?!

12.♗f4 O-O 13.♘a3±

12...O-O 13.♗a4 ♕c7 14.♘c4 ♖ad8 15.♖e1 ♗c8 16.♗d2 ♗a6 17.♗b3 ♘a5! 18.♘xa5 ♕xa5 19.c4

19.♘e5 ♕c7∓

19...♕c7 20.♕c1 ♗b7 21.♗f4 ♗d6 22.♗xd6



22...♕xd6

22...♖xd6! 23.♕f4 ♗xf3! 24.♕xf3 ♖d4 25.h3 ♖fd8∓

23.♗d1 ♘e4

23...♘g4 24.h3 ♗xf3 25.hxg4∓ ♗b7; 23...♕c7!? 24.h3 ♗xf3 25.♗xf3 ♖d4∓

24.♗c2

24.♕e3 ♘d2 25.♘xd2 ♕xd2 26.♕e5∓

24...♘f6

24...♘d2 25.♘xd2 ♕xd2∓

25.♘e5 ♕d2

25...♕c7∓

26.♕xd2 ♖xd2 27.♖ac1 ♖fd8 28.f3?!

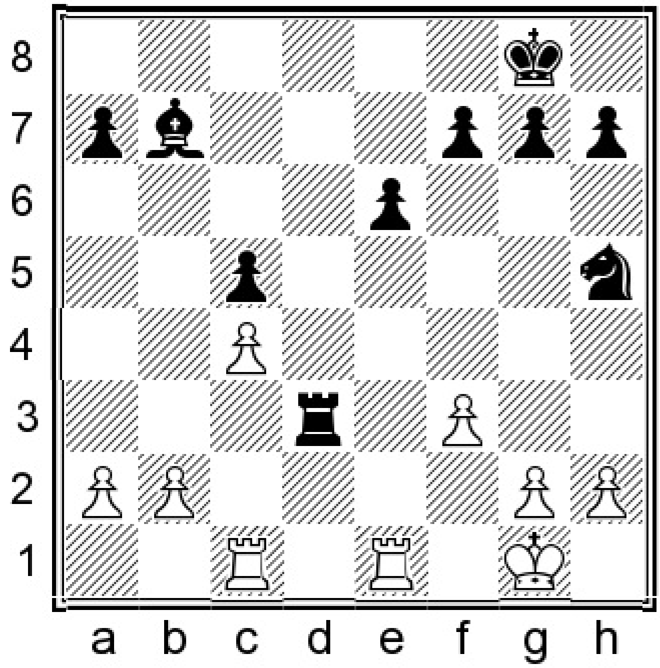
28.♖ed1=

28...♘h5?!

28...♖8d4! 29.♗a4!∓ (29.♖ed1? ♖xc2-+)

29.♔f1?

29.♘d3! ♖8xd3 30.♗xd3 ♖xd3



31.♖cd1! (31.♖e5? ♘f4; 31.♖ed1? ♖d4) 31...♖d4□ 32.♖xd4 cxd4 33.♖e5 g6□ 34.♖b5 ♗a6! (34...♗c6? 35.♖b8+ ♔g7 36.♖c8±) 35.♖b8+ ♔g7 36.b3 ♘f4 37.♔f1 e5 38.♖a8 d3 39.♖xa7 ♗c8 40.♔e1 ♘xg2+ 41.♔d2 ♗f5 42.b4 ♘h4 43.♔e3 ♘g2+=

29...f6?

29...♘f4! 30.g3 f6-+ (30...♘h3 31.♖e2 f6-+)

30.♘g4∓ ♔f7 31.♘f2 ♘f4 32.♖e3 e5 33.♖a3 a6 34.♖b3 ♖8d7?!

34...♗c8

35.♗f5 ♘e6 36.♖b6?!

36.♖cc3±

36...♖2d6 37.♖xd6 ♖xd6 38.♗xe6+ ♔xe6 39.♔e2 ♖d4 40.♖c3 ♔d6 41.♘g4 e4 42.fxe4 ♖xe4+ 43.♘e3 f5 44.♔f2 g6 45.♖b3 ♔c7 46.♖c3 ♖f4+ 47.♔e2 ♖h4 48.h3 ♖e4 49.♔f2 ♖f4+ 50.♔e2 ♖e4 51.♔f2 g5 52.b3 ♖f4+ 53.♔e2 ♖e4 54.♔f2 ♖f4+ 1/2-1/2

B25-B49

36. B29
Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2639) - Krastev, Alexander (2389)
Reykjavik 150/36, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.e5 ♘d5 4.♘c3 e6 5.♘e4

5.♘xd5 exd5 6.d4 ♘c6 7.dxc5 ♗xc5 8.♕xd5 ♕b6 9.♗c4 ♗xf2+ 10.♔e2 O-O 11.♖f1 ♗c5∞ - 146/41

5...f5

5...♘c6 - 105/214

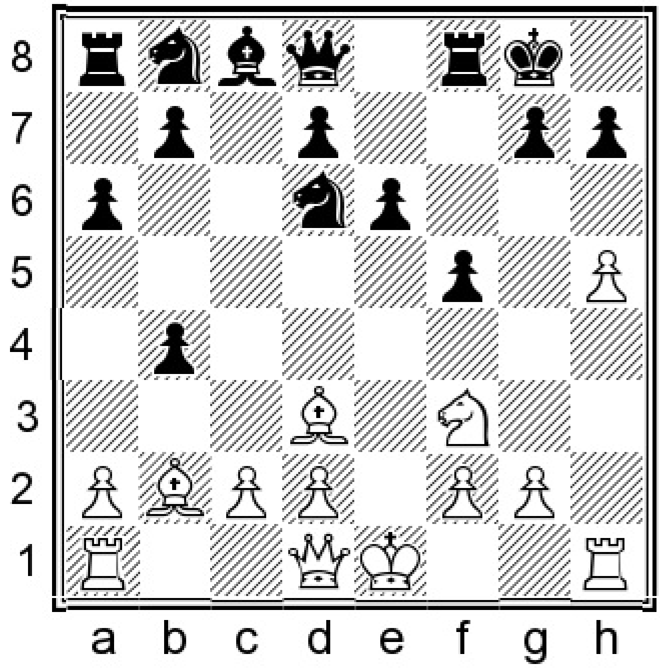
6.♘c3

6.exf6 ♘xf6 7.♘xf6+ (7.♘g3 - 40/(179)) 7...♕xf6 8.d4 (8.g3 ♘c6 9.♗g2 d5 10.O-O ♗d6 11.d3 O-O 12.c4 h6 13.♕b3 ♔h8!? 14.♗d2 (14.cxd5 exd5 15.♕xd5 ♗g4 16.♘d2 ♗e7=∞) 14...d4 15.♘h4 g5∞) 8...cxd4 9.♘xd4 ♘c6 10.♗e3 d5 11.c3 (11.♗b5 ♗d7 12.O-O ♗d6 13.c4 O-O∞) 11...a6 (11...♗d6 12.♘b5 ♗b8 13.♗c5 ♕e5+ 14.♗e2 a6 15.♘d4±) 12.♗e2 ♗d6 13.O-O O-O 14.♘b3 ♘e7 15.♕d2 e5!? (15...♗d7 16.f4 ♖ae8 17.♖ae1 ♔h8 18.g3 ♘f5 19.♗c5±) 16.♗g5 ♕f7 17.f4 exf4 18.♗f3 ♘g6 19.♖ae1 ♔h8 20.♗xd5 ♕c7 21.♔h1 ♗d7 22.♘d4 ♖ae8 23.♗e4 ♕c5 24.♘f3 ♗g4⇄

6...♘xc3

6...d6 - 15/318

6...♘c6 7.♘xd5 exd5 8.d4 (8.♗b5 ♗e7 9.O-O a6 10.♗xc6 dxc6= - 19/305) 8...d6 9.♗g5 ♗e7 10.♗xe7 ♕xe7 11.♗b5 O-O 12.dxc5 ♘xe5 13.O-O ♗e6 14.cxd6 ♕xd6 15.♖e1 ♘xf3+ 16.♕xf3±; 6...♘e7!? 7.♘b5!? (7.b3 a6 8.g3 ♘bc6 9.♗g2 ♘g6 10.♗b2 ♗e7 11.O-O O-O 12.♖e1 b5 13.h4 ♗b7 14.h5 ♘h8 15.♘e2 g5⇄; 7.d4 cxd4 8.♘xd4 a6 9.♗e3 ♘bc6 10.f4 ♘xd4 11.♕xd4 b5 12.O-O-O ♗b7 13.♖g1 ♖c8⇄) 7...♘g6 8.b4!? (8.h4 ♘c6 9.c3 a6 10.♘d6+ ♗xd6 11.exd6 O-O 12.h5 ♘h8 13.d4 cxd4 14.h6 g6 15.♘xd4 ♘f7 16.♗e3 ♘ce5∞) 8...a6 (8...cxb4 9.a3! bxa3 10.h4↑) 9.♘d6+ ♗xd6 10.exd6 cxb4 (10...♕b6 11.h4! ♕xd6 12.♗b2→) 11.h4 O-O 12.h5 ♘f4 (12...♘h8 13.♗b2 ♘f7 14.♗d3 ♘xd6



15.g4! ♘c6 16.♕e2→) 13.h6 g6 14.a3 (14.♗b2 b5 15.g3 ♘d5 16.♘e5 ♘f6 17.♗g2 ♘c6∞) 14...b5 15.axb4 ♗b7 16.♗b2 ♘c6∞

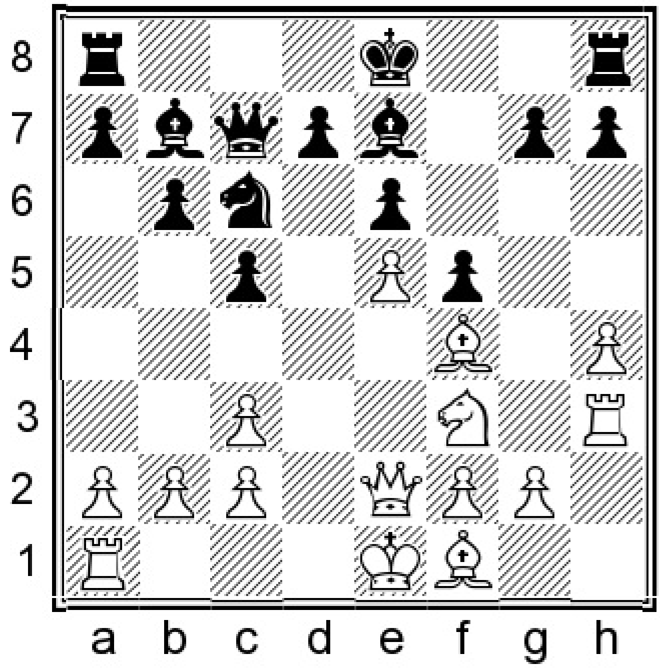
7.dxc3 ♘c6

7...b6 8.♗f4 ♗b7 9.♕e2 (9.♕d2 h6 (9...♕c7 10.h4 ♘c6 11.O-O-O ♗e7 (11...O-O-O?! 12.♘g5!) 12.h5±) 10.h4 g6 11.♗e2 ♘c6 12.O-O-O ♕c7 13.♕e3 O-O-O 14.♖h3 ♘e7 15.c4 ♗g7 16.♖g3 ♖dg8∞; 9.♗c4 ♕c7 10.♕e2 (10.♕d2 ♘c6 11.O-O-O ♘e7 12.h4 a6 13.♗e2 ♘d5 14.♖hg1 ♘xf4 15.♕xf4 ♗e7 16.♘g5 O-O 17.g4 ♗xg5 18.♕xg5 f4 19.♖d6 b5⇄) 10...a6 (10...♘c6 11.O-O-O Δa6 12.♘g5! ♘d8 13.♖d6!→) 11.O-O-O b5 12.♗d3 ♘c6 13.c4 ♗e7⇄) 9...♘a6!? (9...♘c6 10.h4 ♕c7 11.♖h3!?) 10.h4 ♘c7 11.O-O-O b5 12.♗g5 (12.h5 ♗e7 13.♕d2 ♗d5 14.h6 g6 15.♗g5 a5∞) 12...♗e7 13.c4 bxc4 14.♕d2 c3 15.♕xc3 ♘d5 16.♕d2 ♖c8 17.c3 c4⇄

8.♗f4 b6 9.h4 ♗b7 10.♖h3!?

10.h5 ♕c7 11.♕e2 (11.♕d2 ♘e7 12.O-O-O ♘d5 13.h6 ♘xf4 14.♕xf4 gxh6 15.♕h4 ♖g8 16.♕h5+ ♔e7 17.♕h2 a6 18.♔b1 ♔d8∞) 11...♗e7 (11...♘e7 12.O-O-O ♘d5 13.♗d2 O-O-O 14.♘g5) 12.O-O-O O-O-O 13.♖h3!? ♖hg8 14.♕e3 ♖df8 15.♔b1 (15.♗b5 a6 16.♗xc6 ♕xc6 17.♖g3 ♕e4⇄) 15...g5!? (15...♘d8 16.h6!? ♘f7 17.hxg7 ♖xg7 18.♘d2±) 16.♘xg5 ♗xg5 17.♗xg5 ♕xe5 18.♕d2 d5 19.♖e3 ♕d6 20.f4 ♖e8 21.♖de1±

10...♕c7 11.♕e2 ♗e7



12.♘g5!?N

12.O-O-O O-O-O 13.h5 ♖hg8 - 10.h5

12...g6

12...a5 13.O-O-O ♗a6 14.c4 ♘d4 15.♕e3 ♗b7 16.♕g3 h6 17.♘f3 ΔO-O-O 18.♕xg7 ♘xf3 19.gxf3 ♖de8 20.♕g1 ♖eg8 21.♕h2 ♕d8 22.♗e2 ♗c6 23.♔b1 ♕e8 24.♗d2 ♕h5 25.♕h1 Δ Qe1±

13.h5 ♖g8 14.hxg6 hxg6 15.O-O-O O-O-O 16.♕e3

16.♘f7!? ♖de8 17.♖h7 ♘d8 18.♘d6+ ♗xd6 19.exd6 ♕c6 20.♗g5±

16...♖g7 17.♗e2 ♖dg8 18.♖g3!?

18.♖dh1 ♔b8 19.♖h7 ♕c8 20.♖xg7 ♖xg7 21.♕g3 ♗a6 22.♗f3 ♗b7 23.♖h6 ♖g8 (23...b5 24.♘h7! g5 25.♘xg5 b4 26.♖h7±) 24.♘h7!? g5 25.♗xg5 ♗xg5+ 26.♘xg5 ♕c7 27.♘xe6! ♖xg3 28.♘xc7 ♖xf3 29.♘b5! ♖xf2 30.♖h8+ ♗c8 31.♘d6 ♘e7 32.♖e8 ♖xg2 33.♖xe7 ♔c7 34.b3±; 18.♕g3 ♘a5 19.♕h2!? ♗d5 20.♔b1 c4 21.♖h7 ♕d8 22.♖xg7 ♖xg7 23.♗f3! ♗xf3 24.gxf3 ♕g8 25.b4±

18...♖h8

18...♔b8 19.♔b1 ♘a5 20.♕d2 ♖d8 21.♖d3 ♘c4 22.♕e1±

19.♘f3!?

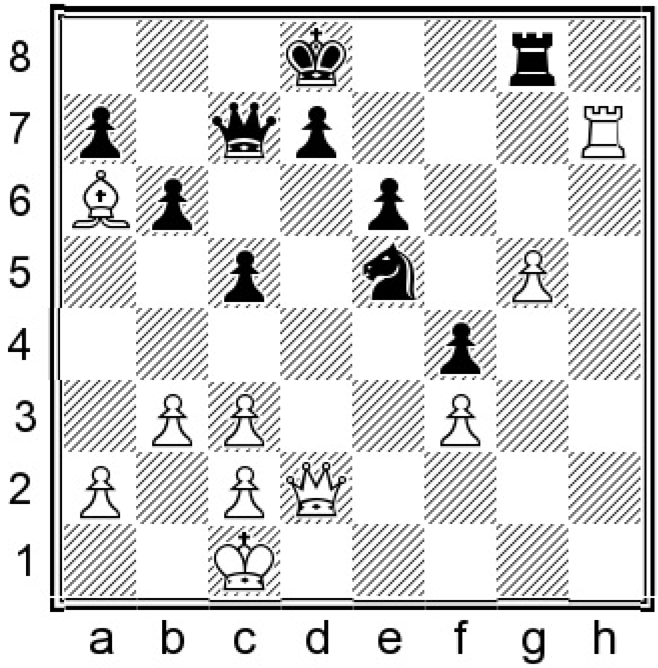
19.♖h3 ♖hg8 (19...♖xh3 20.♕xh3±) 20.♖dh1 (20.♕g3!?) 20...♔b8 21.♖h7± - 18.Rdh1

19...♔b8 20.♕d2 ♔c8 21.b3 ♘d8 22.♗h6 ♖gg8 23.♗g5 ♖h7 24.♗xe7

24.♗b5 ♗d5 25.♔b2 ♘c6 26.♗xe7 ♖xe7 27.♘h4!? ♖eg7 28.f4 c4 29.♗a6+ ♔b8 30.♕f2!? Δ♔a8 31.♘f3 ♘b8 32.♗b5 a6 33.♗xc4 ♗xc4 34.bxc4 ♕xc4 35.♖d6 ♘c6 36.♘d4±

24...♖xe7 25.♘h4 ♖eg7 26.f4 g5!?⇄ 27.♖xg5 ♖xg5 28.fxg5 ♘f7 29.♘f3 ♖g7?!

29...♗xf3 30.gxf3 ♘xe5 31.♖h1 f4!? 32.♗a6+ ♔d8 33.♖h7



33...♖xg5! 34.♖h8+ ♔e7 35.♖c8 ♖g1+ 36.♔b2 ♘xf3 37.♕d3 ♕e5 38.♗b5 (38.♕xf3 ♖g3⇄) 38...♘d4! 39.cxd4 ♕xd4+ 40.♕xd4 cxd4 41.♖c7 e5 42.♖xd7+ ♔e6 43.♖xa7 f3 44.♗c4+ ♔f5 45.♗d5 e4 46.♖f7+ ♔e5 47.♗b7 ♖e1 48.♗xe4 (48.♗a6 ♖e2!=) 48...♖xe4 49.♖xf3 b5 50.♖f8 ♔d6 (50...♔d5? 51.♖c8+-) 51.♖c8 ♖e5! 52.a3 ♔d7 53.♖h8 ♔c6=

30.♗b5!± ♗d5

30...♗c6 31.♗xc6 ♕xc6 32.♖h1±

31.♗a6+ ♔b8 32.♖h1

32.♕f4! ♗xf3 (32...♘h8 33.♕h2+-; 32...♕c6 33.a4 ♕c7 34.♖xd5!+-) 33.gxf3 ♕xe5 34.♕a4! (34.♕h4? ♕xc3 35.♖xd7 ♖xg5 36.♕h2+ ♕e5 37.♖b7+ ♔a8 38.♕xe5 ♘xe5 39.f4 ♖g1+ 40.♔b2 ♘f3 41.♖e7 ♔b8 42.♖xe6 ♔c7=) 34...♘d6 (34...♕xc3 35.♕xd7+-) 35.♕h4 ♔c7 (35...♖g8 36.♕h7+-) 36.♕h8 ♕xc3 37.♔b1 Δ Qa8+-

32...♖g8

32...♕d8 33.♖h5 ♔c7 34.♔b2 ♗c6 35.a4±

33.♖h7 ♘xe5 34.♘xe5

34.♔b2!? f4 35.♕e1 ♘c6 36.♕h1±

34...♕xe5 35.♖xd7 f4 36.♔b2 ♖xg5?!

36...♕xg5 37.♕d3 (37.♖f7 f3) 37...♖g7 38.♕b5 ♖xd7 39.♕xd7 ♕g8 40.♕d6+ ♔a8 41.♕xf4 ♗xg2 42.♕d6 ♕e8 43.a4⩲

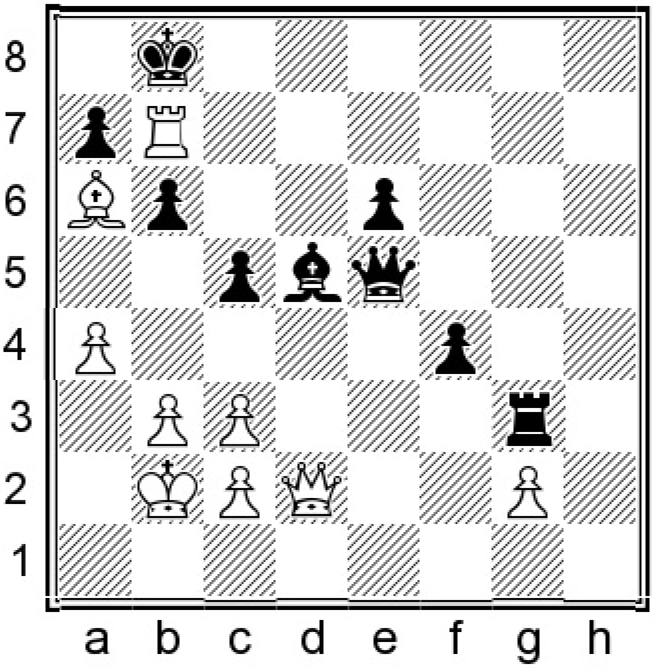
37.a4?⊕

37.♖b7+! ♔c8 (37...♔a8 38.♖f7 ♔b8 39.♖xf4+-) 38.♖f7+ ♔d8 39.♕f2± Δ♖g4 40.♕f1! ♖g3 41.♖xf4 ♕xc3+ 42.♔b1 ♖g8 43.♗b5 a5 44.♖f7 ♕d4 45.g4! ♖g7 46.♖xg7 ♕xg7 47.♕f4+-

37...♖g3

37...♕f6! 38.♗f1 ♖g3⇄

38.♖b7+



38...♔a8?⊕

38...♔c8! 39.♖f7+ ♔d8 40.♖xf4 ♖xc3! 41.♔b1 ♖e3 42.♖f1 ♖e4! (42...♖g3? 43.♕f2! ♖g8 44.g4 ♕g7 45.♕h2+-) 43.♗d3 (43.♕f2 ♕g7=) 43...♖g4 44.♕h6 ♕g7 45.♕h2 e5!∞

39.♖f7

39.♖e7! ♔b8 40.♖xe6!+-

39...♔b8 40.♖xf4 ♖xg2?

40...♕e3 41.♖f8+ ♔c7 42.♖f7+ ♔d6 (42...♔b8? 43.♖b7+! ♔c8 44.♕xe3 ♖xe3 45.♖xa7+ ♔b8 46.♖g7+-) 43.♕xe3 ♖xe3 44.♖xa7 ♖g3 45.♗f1 e5 46.b4±

41.♖f8+ ♔c7 42.♖f7+ ♔d6 43.♕h6+- ♕g5

43...♖g8 44.♖xa7 ♖h8 45.♕g6+-

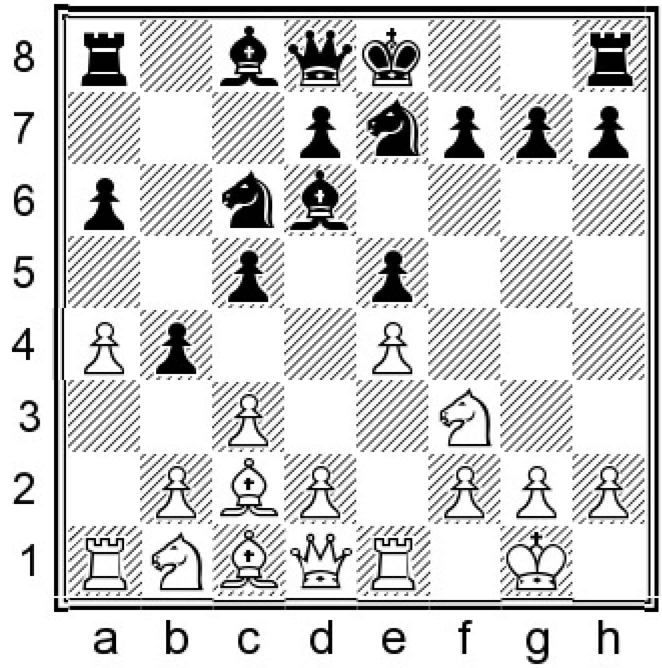
44.♕f8+ ♔e5 45.♗d3 ♗c6 46.♕b8+ ♔d5 47.♖f4 ♗d7 48.♗e4# 1-0

37. B30
Robson, Ray (2669) - Xiong, Jeffery (2700)

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 e5 4.O-O ♗d6 5.c3 a6 6.♗a4 b5 7.♗c2 ♘ge7 8.a4

8.d4 - 148/34

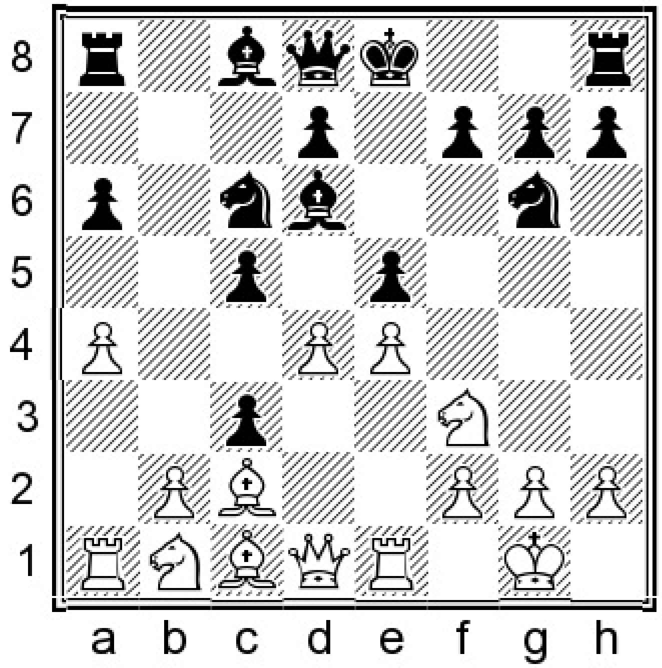
8...b4 9.♖e1



9...♘g6N

9...♖b8!? 10.d4 bxc3 11.dxe5 cxb2 12.♗xb2 ♗c7 13.♗c3 O-O 14.♘bd2 ♘g6 15.♘c4 ♕e7 16.♘e3 ♘gxe5 17.♘d5 ♕d8 18.♘xc7 ♘xf3+ 19.♕xf3 ♕xc7∞

10.d4 bxc3



10...cxd4 11.cxd4 exd4 12.e5 ♗e7 13.♘bd2 O-O∞

11.dxe5! cxb2 12.♗xb2 ♗xe5?!

12...♗c7 13.♘a3 ♖b8 14.♗c3 (14.♘c4 ♘a5 15.♘fd2 ♘c6∞) 14...♘gxe5 15.♘xe5 ♗xe5 16.♗xe5 ♘xe5 17.♕d6 ♘c6 18.♘c4 ♕e7 19.♕g3 O-O 20.♘d6±

13.♘xe5 ♘gxe5 14.♗xe5 ♘xe5 15.♕d5 ♘c6 16.♕xc5

16.♘c3!? O-O 17.♖ab1↑

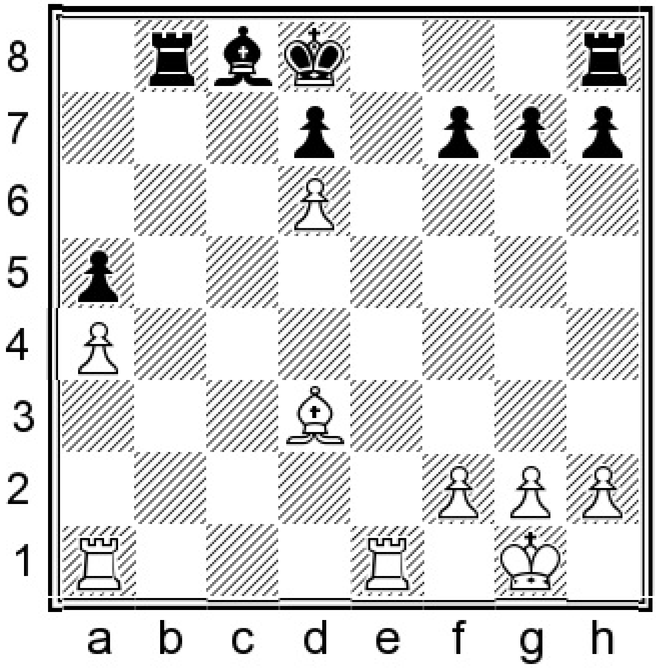
16...♕e7 17.♕xe7+ ♔xe7 18.♘c3 ♘b4

⌓18...♖b8 19.♘d5+ ♔d8 20.♗d3 ♖e8 21.f3±

19.♘d5+ ♘xd5 20.exd5+ ♔d8?

20...♔f6 21.♖ab1 d6 22.♖b6 ♖d8 23.a5±

21.d6 a5 22.♗d3 ♖b8



⌓22...♗a6 23.♗e4 ♖b8 24.♖ab1 ♖b4 25.♖xb4 axb4 26.♗d5 f5 27.♖e7 g5 28.f3±

23.♖ab1! ♖b7

23...♖xb1 24.♖xb1 ♖e8 25.♔f1 ♖e6 26.♖b6Θ ♖h6 27.h3 ♖e6 28.♗c4 ♖e4 29.♗b5 ♖d4 30.♔e2+- ×Kd8, Bc8

24.♖ec1 ♖b4 25.♖xb4 axb4 26.a5 ♗b7 27.a6 ♗a8 28.a7 1-0

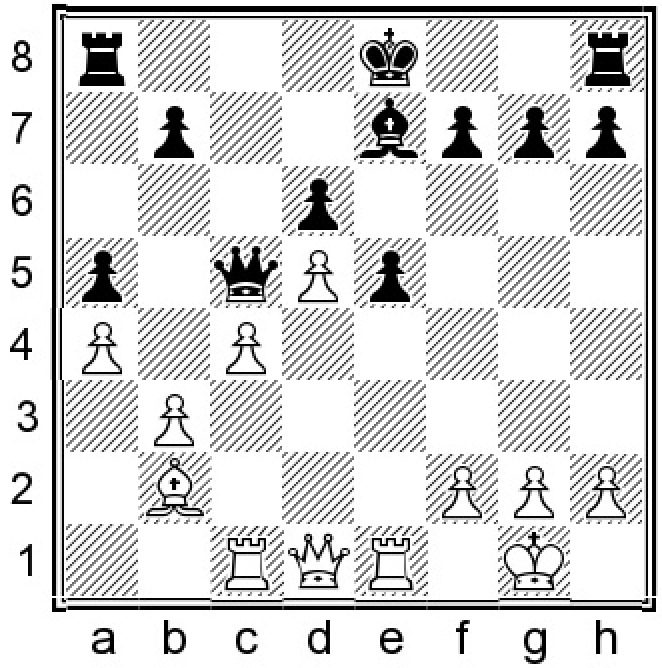
38. B30
Giri, Anish (2777) - Carlsen, Magnus (2855)
chess24.com (Int.-m/5-blitz) 150/38, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 e6 4.O-O ♘ge7 5.d4

5.♖e1 a6 6.♗f1 d5 (6...b6!?; 6...♘g6!?) 7.exd5 ♘xd5= - 134/43

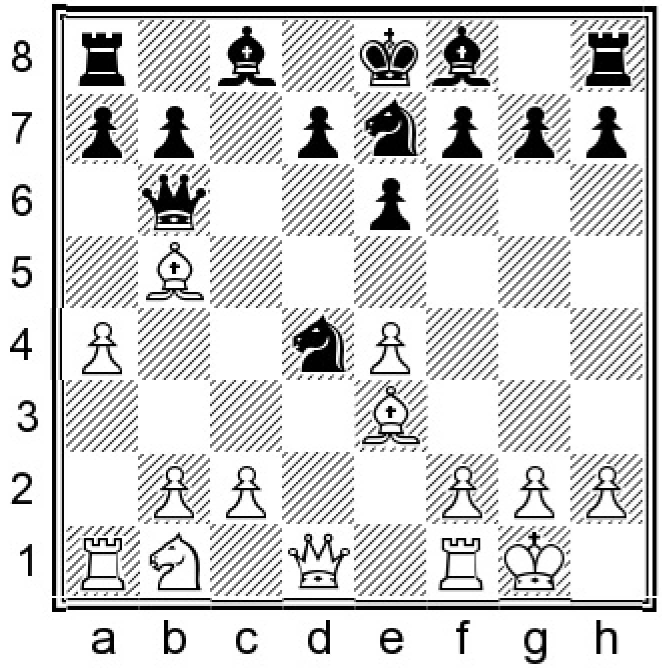
5...cxd4 6.♘xd4 ♕b6 7.♗e3!?

7.♘xc6 bxc6 (7...♕xb5? 8.♘d4 ♕b6 (8...♕e5 9.f4! ♕xe4 10.♘c3 ♕g6 11.f5!+-) 9.b3 (9.c4 ♘c6 (9...a6 10.♗e3 ♕c7 11.♘c3 ♘c6 12.♘a4!+-) 10.♘b5 a6 11.♗e3 ♕a5 12.♘d6++-) 9...♘c6 10.♗b2 ♘xd4 11.♗xd4 ♕c6 12.♖e1 d6 13.c4 e5 14.♗b2 ♗e7 15.♘c3 ♗e6 16.♘d5 ♗xd5 17.exd5 ♕b6 18.a4 a5 19.♖c1 ♕c5


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

20.♖c3!+-) 8.♗e2 ♘g6 9.c4 - 149/37

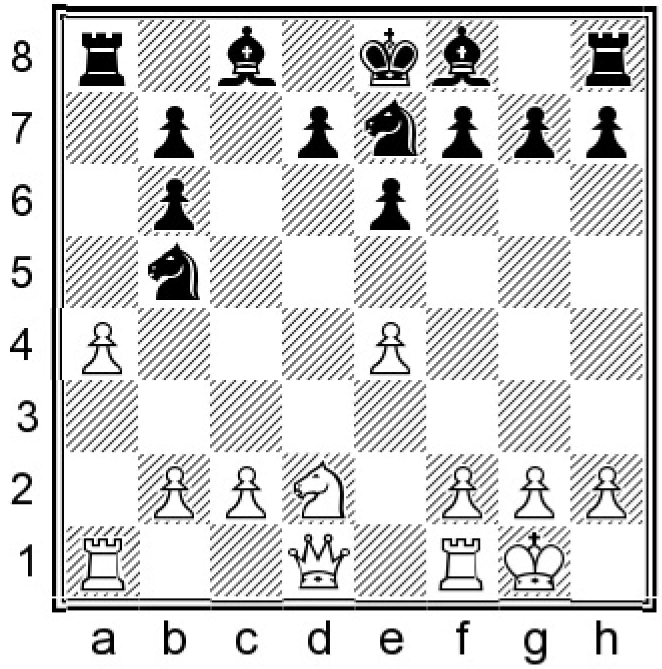
7...♘xd4 8.a4


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

8...♘xb5??N

8...e5 9.c3 a6 10.cxd4 axb5 11.♘c3! (11.d5 ♕f6 12.♘c3 ♘g6 13.♘xb5 ♗d6 14.♕d2 h6 15.♗b6 O-O 16.a5 ♘f4 17.g3 ♘h3+ 18.♔g2 ♘g5 19.f3 ♗e7 20.h4 ♘h7 21.d6 ♗d8 22.♗xd8 ♖xd8∞) 11...bxa4 12.d5 ♕b4 13.d6 ♘c6 14.♘d5 ♕xd6 15.♗b6 ♖a6 16.♘c7+ ♔e7 17.♘d5+=

9.♗xb6 axb6 10.♘d2?



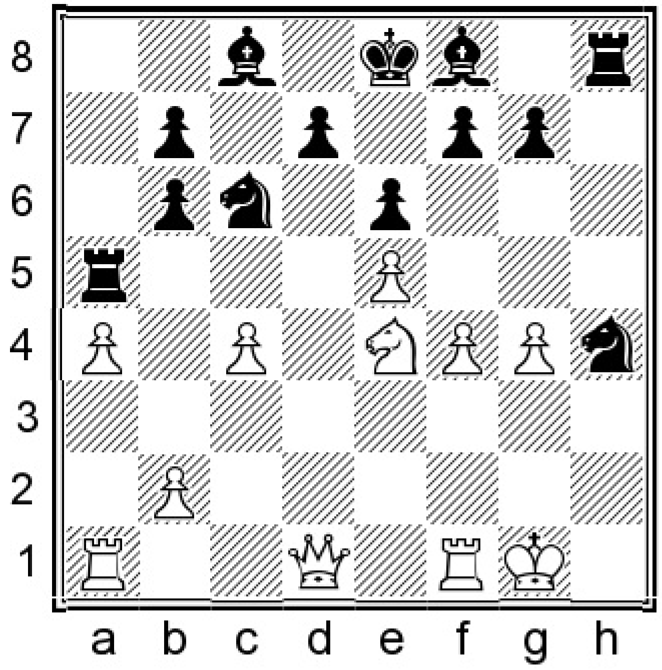
10.♕d3! ♘c7 11.♕g3 ♘a6 12.♘a3 d5 13.♖fd1 ♗d7 14.♘b5+-

10...♘d6! 11.e5 ♘df5 12.♘e4?

12.♘c4 ♘d5 13.♕f3 h5 14.♖fd1 ♖h6 15.♘a3 ♗xa3 16.♖xa3 ♘de7 17.♕e2±

12...♘c6 13.g4 ♘h4 14.f4 h5 15.h3 hxg4 16.hxg4 d5

16...♖a5! 17.c4

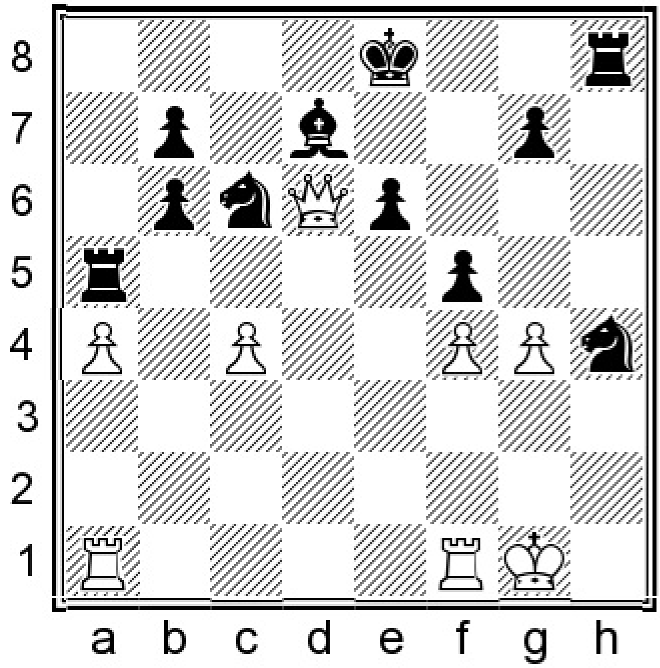


17...g5! 18.♘xg5?? (18.♘d6+ ♗xd6 19.♕xd6 ♖c5∓) 18...♗c5+-+

17.exd6 ♖a5 18.c4 f5! 19.b4 ♘xb4 20.d7+?!

20.gxf5! ♘xf5 21.♖b1 ♖h4 22.♖xb4 ♘e3 23.♕f3 ♘xf1 24.c5!∞

20...♗xd7 21.♘d6+ ♗xd6 22.♕xd6 ♘c6



23.♖ad1??

23.♕c7

23...♗c8 24.g5 ♘g6 25.♖f2 ♔f7! 26.♕c7+ ♘ce7-+ 27.♖d8 ♖xd8 28.♕xd8 ♖xa4 29.♕c7 e5 30.fxe5 ♗e6 31.♕xb7 ♖xc4 32.♕xb6 ♘xe5 33.♖e2 ♖c6 34.♕e3 ♘5g6 35.♔h2 ♗c4 36.♖b2 ♖e6 37.♕f3 ♖e4 38.♖b7 ♗e6 39.♔g1 ♖g4+ 40.♔h2 ♖xg5 41.♖b6 ♗d5 42.♕e3 ♖g2+ 43.♔h3 ♖g4 44.♔h2 f4 45.♕d4 ♖g5 46.♖d6 f3 47.♖d7 ♖f5 48.♕g4 ♗e6 49.♖d1 ♘e5 50.♕h4 f2 51.♔g2 ♗d5+ 52.♔f1 ♗c4+ 53.♔g2 f1=Q+ 0-1

39. B41
Lupulescu, Constantin (2659) - Ferreira, Jorge Viterbo (2520)
Reykjavik 150/39, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 a6 5.c4 ♘f6 6.♘c3 ♕c7 7.a3 b6

7...♘xe4 8.♘xe4 ♕e5 9.♗d3 ♕xd4 10.♕e2=∞ - 110/83

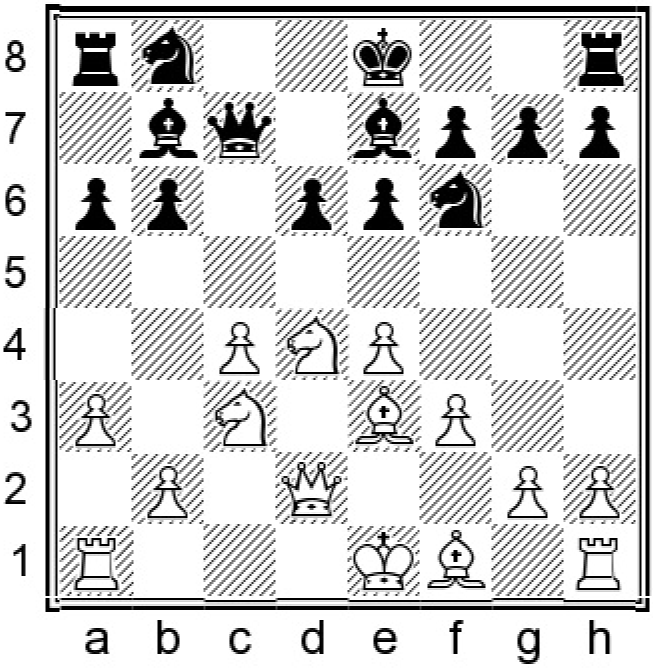
8.♗e3 ♗b7 9.f3 d6

9...♘c6 10.♖c1 ♗c5 - 146/50 (10...♘e5 - 103/101)

10.♕d2

10.♖c1 - 103/102

10...♗e7



11.g4!?N

11.♗e2 ♘bd7 12.O-O O-O 13.♖fc1 (13.♖fd1 ♖fc8 14.b4 ♗f8 15.♖ac1 ♕d8 16.♕e1 ♕e8 17.♗f2 ♘e5 18.♕f1 d5!?⇄; 13.a4 ♖ab8 14.♖fc1 ♖fc8 15.♔h1 ♕d8 16.♗f1 ♘e5 17.b3 h6!? 18.a5 bxa5 19.♘ce2 d5⇄) 13...♖ac8 (13...♖fc8 - 115/55) 14.b4 (14.a4 ♕b8 15.a5 bxa5 16.♖xa5 ♖fe8 17.♖aa1 d5!? 18.cxd5 exd5 19.exd5 ♗d6 20.♘f5 ♗xh2+ 21.♔h1 ♖e5⇄) 14...♕b8 (14...♖fe8 15.♖ab1 ♕b8 16.♖c2 ♗d8 17.♔h1 ♗c7 18.♗g1 ♕a8 19.♘a4 (19.♖bc1 ♘e5 20.♘a4 ♗d8⇄; 19.a4 ♖ed8 20.♕c1 h6 21.♘b3 d5⇄) 19...♘e5 20.♘b2!? Δ♔h8 (20...d5 21.exd5 exd5 22.c5±) 21.♘d3±) 15.♖c2 ♗d8 16.♔h1 ♗c7 17.♗g1 ♔h8 18.♖b1 ♕a8 19.♘a4 ♖g8 (Δ g5) 20.♕c1!? (20.c5 - 93/(113); 20.♗e3 ♗d8∞) 20...♗d8 (20...♘xe4? 21.fxe4 ♗xe4 22.♗f3+-) 21.♗e3 (21.♘b3 ♘xe4! 22.fxe4 ♗xe4 23.♗f1 b5 24.♘b2 ♘e5⇄) 21...♘e5 (21...h6 22.c5!?±) 22.♘b3 ♘fd7 23.♕d2 ♕b8!? (23...d5 24.exd5 exd5 25.c5 b5 26.♘b2±) 24.♖d1 ♗e7∞

11...h6

11...♘fd7 12.h4±

12.O-O-O ♘bd7 13.h4 ♘e5 14.♖g1

14.♗e2!? ♘xc4 15.♗xc4 ♕xc4 16.♔b1 ♕c7 17.♖c1 ♕d7 18.g5 ♘h5 19.gxh6 g6 20.♘de2±

14...♘fd7

14...♘xc4 15.♗xc4 ♕xc4 16.♔b1 ♘d7 17.♖c1 ♘c5 18.♘d5 ♕d3+ 19.♕xd3 ♘xd3 20.♘c7+ ♔d7 21.♘xa8 ♖xa8 22.♖c3 ♘e5 23.♗f2±

15.♔b1

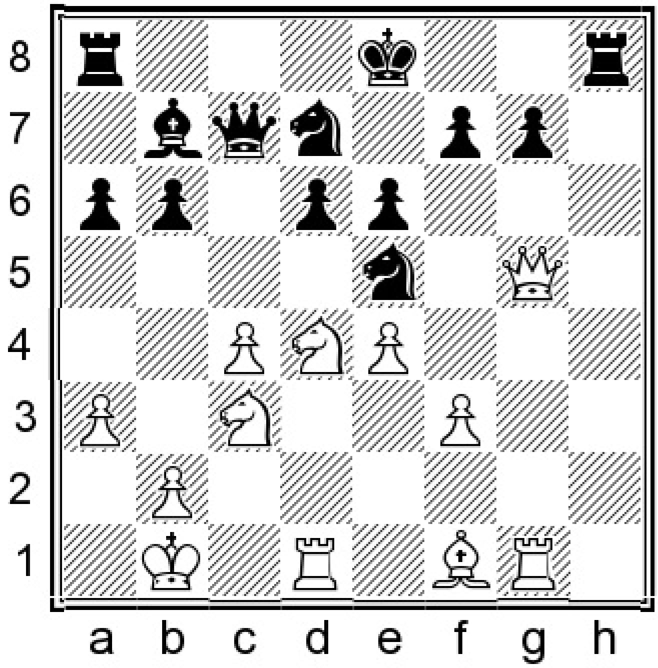
15.g5!? ♘xc4 16.♗xc4 ♕xc4 17.♔b1 ♘e5 (17...hxg5 18.♗xg5 ♗xg5 19.hxg5 ♘c5 (19...g6 20.♖c1+-) 20.g6 f6 21.♘db5! axb5 22.♕xd6+-) 18.f4 (18.♔a1!? hxg5 19.♗xg5 ♕c7 20.♗xe7 ♕xe7 21.f4 ♘c4

22.♕e2 ♖c8 (22...b5 23.f5 O-O-O 24.a4±) 23.f5 ♕f6 24.h5 ♖h6 (24...e5 25.♘e6! fxe6 26.♖g6 ♕h4 27.♖xg7 ♕xh5 28.♕xh5+ ♖xh5 29.♖xb7 exf5 30.♘d5 ♔f8 31.exf5 ♖h2 32.♘f6±) 25.♖g3 b5 26.♕h2↑ e5 (26...♔d7 27.fxe6+ fxe6 28.♕g1±) 27.♘c2±) 18...♘f3 19.♘xf3 ♗xe4+ 20.♘xe4 ♕xe4+ 21.♔a1 ♕xf3 22.♕d4 hxg5 23.♖gf1 ♕e2 24.♕xg7 ♔d7 25.♖fe1 ♕c2 26.fxg5 ♕h7 27.♕d4 (27.♕e5 ♖ac8 (27...♕xh4? 28.♗f4+-) 28.♖h1 ♖c4 29.h5 ♖hc8∞) 27...♕xh4 28.♗f4 ♖hc8 (28...♖ac8 29.♖e4!±) 29.♖h1 ♕g4 30.♕xb6 ♕xf4 31.♕b7+ ♔e8 32.g6! ♖ab8 33.♖h8+ ♗f8 34.♕xb8 ♖xb8 35.g7 ♔d7 36.g8=Q d5 37.♕g2±

15...♗xh4

15...♘xc4 16.♗xc4 ♕xc4 17.♖c1 - 14...Nc4

16.g5 hxg5 17.♗xg5 ♗xg5 18.♕xg5

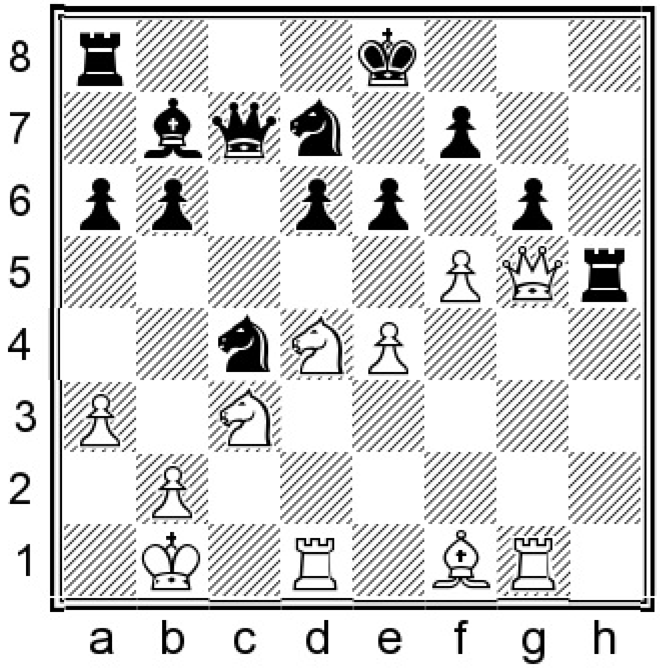


18...g6

18...♘f6!? 19.♘db5!? (19.♕xg7 ♔e7⇄; 19.♗e2 O-O-O 20.♕xg7 ♕e7 21.♕g5 ♔b8 22.♕e3 ♖c8∞; 19.f4 ♘xe4 20.♘xe4 ♗xe4+ 21.♔a1 ♘f3 22.♕g2 ♖h2 23.♕g3 ♘xg1 24.♕xh2 ♘f3 25.♕h8+ ♔e7 26.♕h1 ♘xd4 27.♕xe4 ♘c6 28.♕h7 g6 29.♗d3 ♖f8 30.♗xg6 ♔d8∞) 19...axb5 20.♘xb5 ♗xe4+! 21.♔a2 ♕c5 22.♘xd6+ ♔e7 23.♘xe4 ♕c7 24.♘d6 ♖h5! 25.♕xg7 ♖g8 26.♕xf6+ ♔xf6 27.♖xg8 ♕c6□ 28.f4 ♘g6 29.♖c8 ♕f3 30.♖c7 ♘xf4 31.♖xf7+ ♔e5 32.♖d7□ ♔f6 33.♖f7+ ♔e5=

19.f4 ♘xc4 20.♘xe6

20.f5 ♘xa3+ (20...♖h5

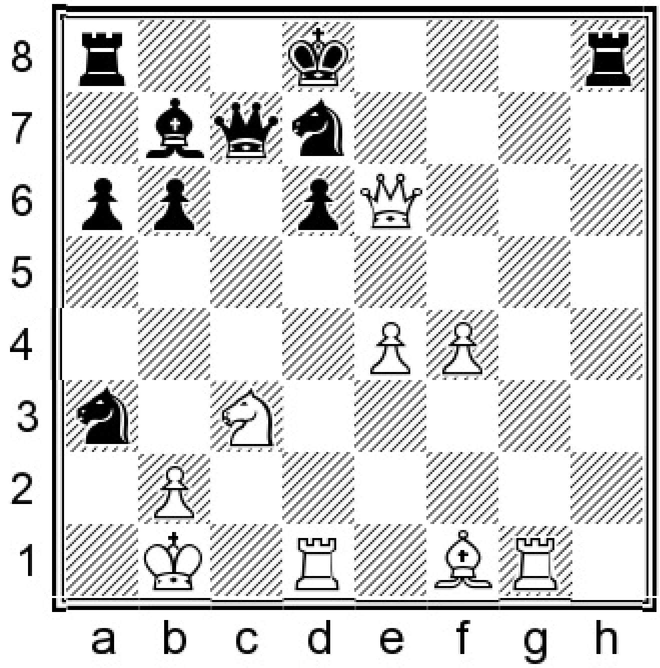


21.♘xe6! ♘xa3+ 22.♔c1! ♕xc3+ 23.bxc3 ♖xg5 24.♘xg5 ♔e7 25.fxg6 fxg6 26.♖h1±) 21.♔a1 ♘f8 22.♕f6 ♖h7 23.fxg6 fxg6 24.♘xe6 ♕f7 25.♕xf7+ ♖xf7 26.♘xf8 ♘c2+ 27.♔a2!? (27.♔b1 ♘e3 28.♖xd6 ♖xf1+ 29.♖xf1 ♘xf1 30.♘xg6 (30.♘e6 ♔e7 31.♖xb6 ♘d2+=) 30...b5 31.e5 ♘e3 32.e6 ♖d8=) 27...♘e3 28.♖xd6 ♖xf1 29.♖xf1 ♘xf1 30.♘e6 ♖c8 (30...♔e7 31.♖xb6 ♘e3 32.♘c5±) 31.♖xb6 ♗a8 32.♘g5 ♘d2 33.♖xg6±

20...fxe6?

20...♘xa3+! 21.♔a1 (21.♔a2!? fxe6 22.♕xg6+ ♔d8 23.♕xe6 ♘b5□ 24.♖g7 ♖e8 25.♕f7 ♖f8 26.♕e7+ ♔c8 27.♗h3 ♔b8 28.♖c1 ♕d8 29.♕xd7 ♖a7=) 21...♘c2+ 22.♔a2 ♘b4+ 23.♔a3 (23.♔b1? ♗xe4+!∓) 23...fxe6 24.♕xg6+ ♔d8 25.♕xe6 ♕c5! 26.♖xd6 ♗c6 27.♖g7 ♖a7 28.♗h3 ♘d5+ 29.♔b3 ♗a4+! 30.♔a2 ♘xc3+ 31.bxc3 ♔c8□ 32.♖g8+ ♖xg8 33.♕xg8+ ♔b7 34.♗xd7 ♕f2+□ 35.♔a1 ♕e1+ 36.♔b2 ♕f2+=

21.♕xg6+ ♔d8 22.♕xe6 ♘xa3+



23.♔a2?!

23.♔a1! ♘c2+ (23...♘b5 24.♖g8+ ♖xg8 25.♕xg8+ ♔e7 26.♕g5+ ♔f8 27.♕h6+ ♔e8 28.e5+-) 24.♔a2 ♘b4+ 25.♔b1! ♕c5 26.♖g5! ♖e8 27.♕b3 d5 28.♗h3±

23...♘b5! 24.♖g8+ ♖xg8 25.♕xg8+ ♔e7 26.♕g5+ ♔f8 27.♘d5

27.♕h6+ ♔e8 28.e5 ♘xc3+ 29.bxc3 ♕xc3 30.♕e6+ ♔d8 31.♕g8+ ♔e7□ (31...♔c7?? 32.exd6+ ♔c6 33.♕d5#) 32.exd6+ ♔f6 33.♕g5+ ♔f7 34.♕e7+ ♔g8 35.♕xd7 ♕c2+ 36.♔a3 ♕c3+=

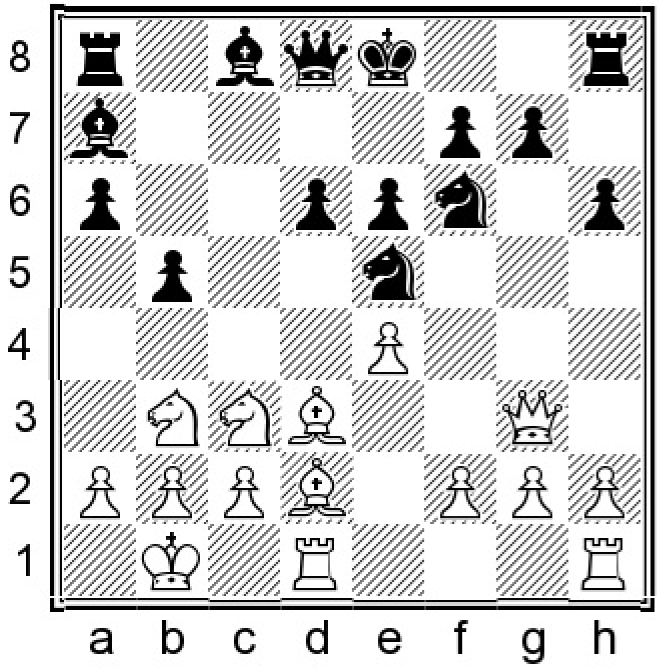
27...♕c2□ 28.♕e7+ ♔g8 29.♕e6+ ♔f8□ 30.♕e7+ ♔g8= 31.♕e6+ ♔f8 32.♕h6+ ♔f7 33.♕h5+ ♔f8 34.♕h8+ ♔f7 35.♕h5+ ♔f8 36.♕h8+ ♔f7 37.♕h7+ ♔f8 38.♕f5+ ♔e8 39.♕e6+ 1/2-1/2

40. ** B42
Motylev, Alexander (2624) - Andreikin, Dmitry (2728)
Russia (ch) 150/40, 2021

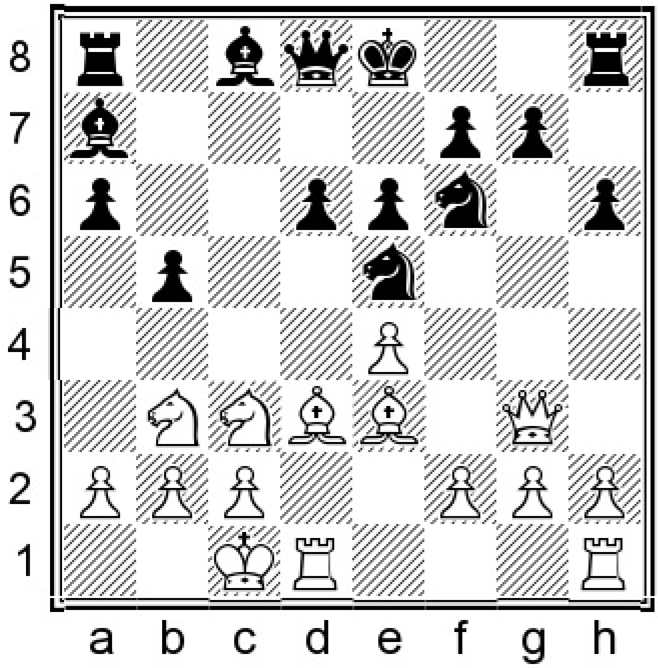
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 a6 5.♗d3 ♗c5 6.♘b3 ♗a7 7.♕g4 ♘f6 8.♕g3 d6 9.♘c3 ♘c6 10.♗g5 h6 11.♗d2 ♘h5 12.♕f3 ♘f6 13.O-O-O ♘e5

13...e5 - 106/(199)

14.♕g3 b5 15.♔b1



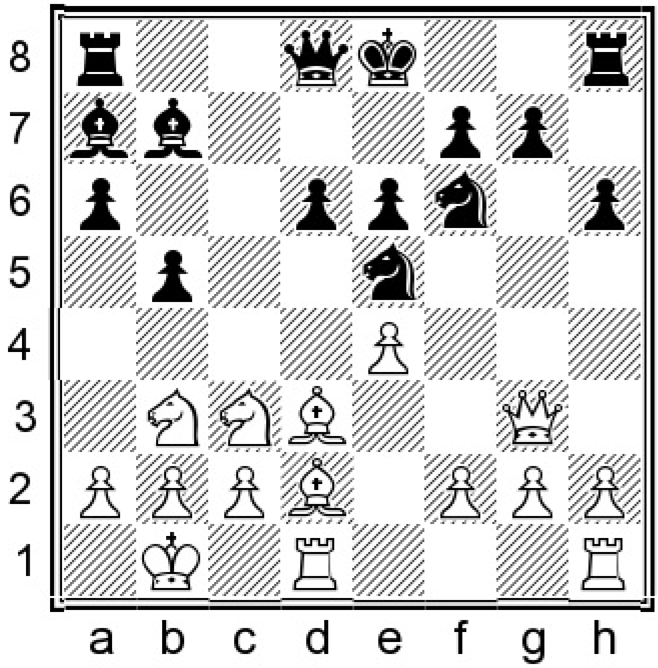
15.a3 ♗b7 16.♔b1 ♘h5 17.♕h3 ♘f6 18.f4 ♘xd3 19.cxd3 ♗b6∞; 15.♗e3?!



15...♘h5N (15...♗xe3+) 16.♕h3 ♗xe3+ 17.♕xe3 ♕g5∓ Solodovnichenko,Y (2546)-Kasperek,R (2170) Krakow 150/(40) 2021

15...b4N

15...♗b7



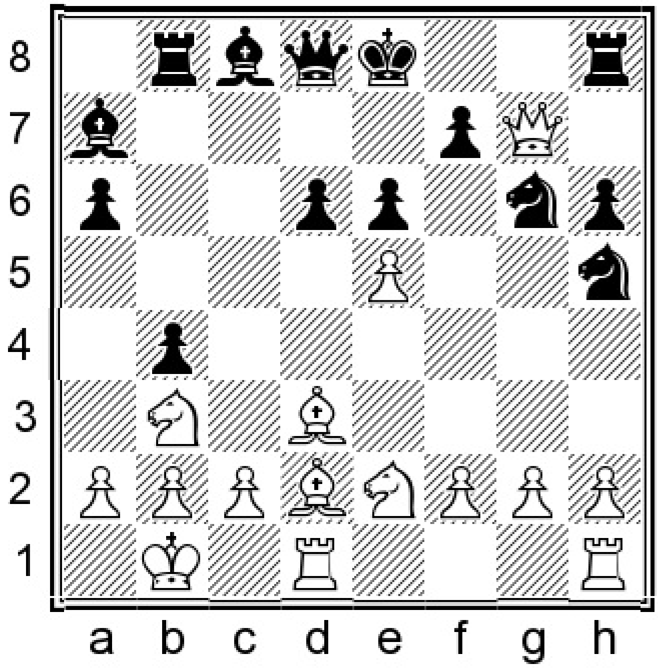
- 150/(40) 16.f3N (16.♘xb5 axb5 17.♗xb5+ ♗c6 18.♕xe5 O-O 19.♗b4 dxe5 20.♖xd8 ♖fxd8 21.♗xc6 ♖ab8 22.♗a3 ♗xf2 23.♘a5 ♗b6=) 16...♘h5 17.♕h3 ♘f6 18.♕g3 ♘h5 19.♕h3 ♘f6 20.♕g3 1/2 (18) Alekseev,E (2617)-Babula,V (2559) tornelo. com (Internet) 150/(40) 2021

16.♘e2 ♖b8 17.♕xg7

17.♘ed4 ♗d7 18.♘f3 ♘xd3 19.cxd3 e5 20.♕xg7 ♖g8 21.♕xh6 ♖g6 22.♕h4 ♖g4 23.♕h6 ♖g6=

17...♖g8

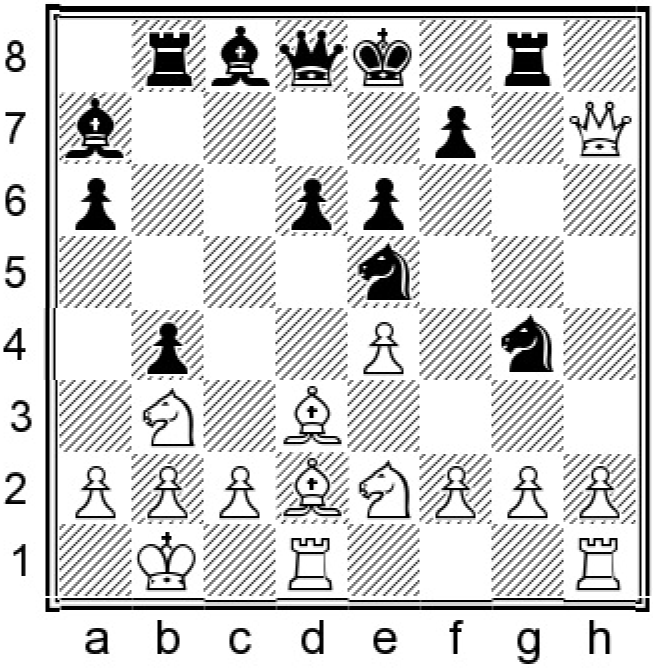
17...♘g6 18.e5! ♘h5



19.♕xg6! fxg6 20.♗xg6+ ♔f8 21.♗xh5 a5 (21...d5? 22.♘bd4 ♗d7 23.f4 ♔g8 24.g4+-; 21...♖b5

22.♘ed4 ♗xd4 23.♘xd4 ♖xe5 24.♘c6 ♕f6 25.♗f3±) 22.exd6 a4 23.♘bd4 ♗xd4 24.♘xd4 ♕xd6 25.♗f3±

18.♕xh6 ♘fg4 19.♕h7



19...♔d7!= 20.f4 ♖h8 21.♕g7 ♖g8 22.♕h7 ♖h8 23.♕g7 ♖g8 24.♕h7 ♖h8 25.♕g7 1/2-1/2

41. B42
Lukas, Norbert - Norchenko, Konstantin
corr 150/41, 2020

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 a6 5.♗d3 ♗c5 6.♘b3 ♗a7 7.♕e2 ♘c6 8.♗e3 d6 9.O-O ♗xe3

9...♘f6 - 71/174

10.♕xe3 ♘f6 11.c4 e5

11...O-O 12.♘c3 ♕e7 13.♗e2 ♕c7 14.♖fd1 ♖d8 15.♖d2 b6 16.♖ad1 h6±

12.♘c3 ♗e6 13.♖fd1 ♖c8

13...O-O 14.♗f1 ♕b8 15.♖d2 ♖d8 16.♘d5 ♗xd5 17.cxd5 ♘e7 18.♖c1=

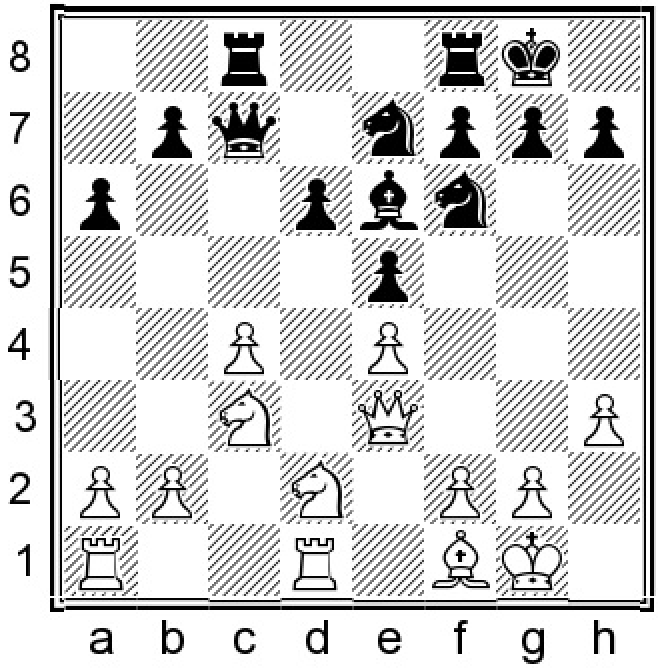
14.♗f1 O-O

14...♘b8 15.♘d2 ♘g4 (15...O-O 16.h3 ♘bd7 17.b3 ♕c7 18.a4 ♕c5 19.♕f3 ♖fd8 20.♘db1 ♔h8 21.♘a3 g5 22.♖d2 ♖g8±) 16.♕e1 ♘f6 17.♘d5 ♘c6 18.♘b3 ♘d7 19.h3 (19.♘c3 ♕e7 20.♘d5 ♕d8±) 19...♕g5 20.♘b4 (20.♘a5 ♘xa5 21.♕xa5 O-O 22.♕d2±) 20...♗xh3 21.♖xd6 h5 22.♖ad1 h4 23.♘xc6 ♖xc6 24.♖xc6 bxc6 25.♕d2 ♕xd2 26.♖xd2 ♗e6 27.♖d6 ♘b8 28.♘a5 c5 29.a3 ♔e7 30.♖b6 ♔d7 31.b4±

15.h3 ♘e7

15...♘b8

16.♘d2 ♕c7



16...h6

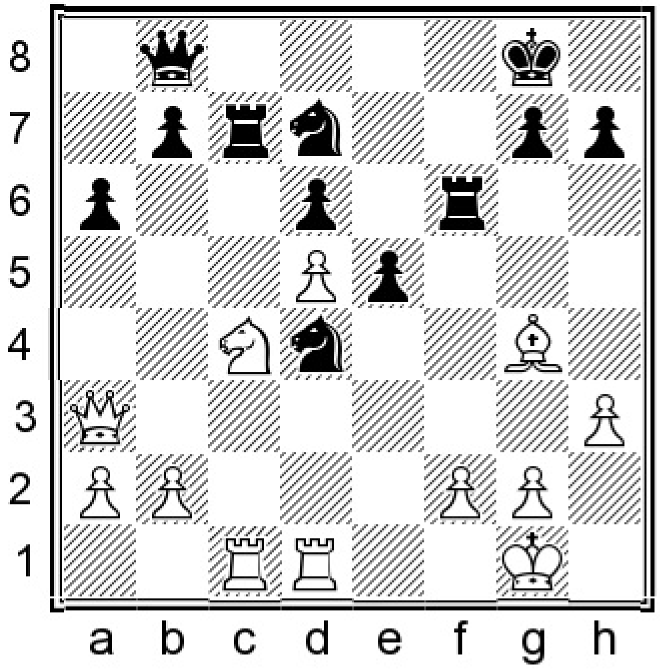
17.♘d5N

17.♖ac1

17...♗xd5 18.cxd5 ♘d7 19.♖ac1 ♕b8 20.♘c4 f5

⌓20...b5 21.♘a5 ♖xc1 22.♖xc1 ♖c8 23.♖xc8+ ♘xc8 24.♕c3 ♔f8±

21.♕a3↑ ♖f6 22.exf5 ♘xf5 23.♗e2! ♘d4 24.♗g4 ♖c7



25.♘d2! ♖f8 26.♘e4 ♖xc1

26...♘f6 27.♖xc7 ♕xc7 28.♕xd6 ♕xd6 29.♘xd6 ♖d8 30.♘f5±

27.♖xc1 ♘f6 28.♘xf6+ gxf6 29.♗e6+ ♔h8 30.♔f1 ♕d8

30...f5?! 31.♕a5 ♕d8 32.♕c7 ♕g5 33.♖e1 ♘xe6 34.dxe6 ♖g8 35.♕xb7 e4 36.g4 ♕h6 37.♕b3+-

31.♖c8 ♕e7 32.♕c3 ♖xc8 33.♕xc8+ ♔g7 34.♕g8+

34.g4 ♔g6 35.a4 a5 36.♔g2 ♔g5 37.♗f5±

34...♔h6 35.g3 f5 36.h4! b5 37.♔g2 e4

37...b4± 38.f3 a5 (38...e4 39.fxe4 fxe4 40.♕g4 ♕f6 (40...♘xe6?! 41.dxe6+-) 41.♕xe4 ♔g7+-) 39.b3 e4 40.fxe4 fxe4 41.♕g4 ♕f6 42.♕xe4 ♔g7 43.♗d7+-

38.b4!± ♔h5 39.♔h2 ♔h6 40.♗c8 ♕f6 41.a3 ♘c2 42.♕e6 ♔g7 43.♕d7+

43.♗xa6? ♕xe6 44.dxe6 ♘xa3±; 43.♕xf5? ♕xf5 44.♗xf5 e3±

43...♔h6

43...♔g6 44.♗xa6 ♘xa3±

44.♕xf5 ♕xf5 45.♗xf5 e3 46.fxe3

46.♗xc2? e2-+

46...♘xe3 47.♗d3 ♔g7 48.♔g1 ♘xd5

48...h6 49.♔f2 ♘xd5

49.♔f2 h6 50.♗e4! ♘b6 51.♗b7 ♘c4 52.♔e2!

52.♗xa6? ♘xa3 53.♔g2 ♔f6=

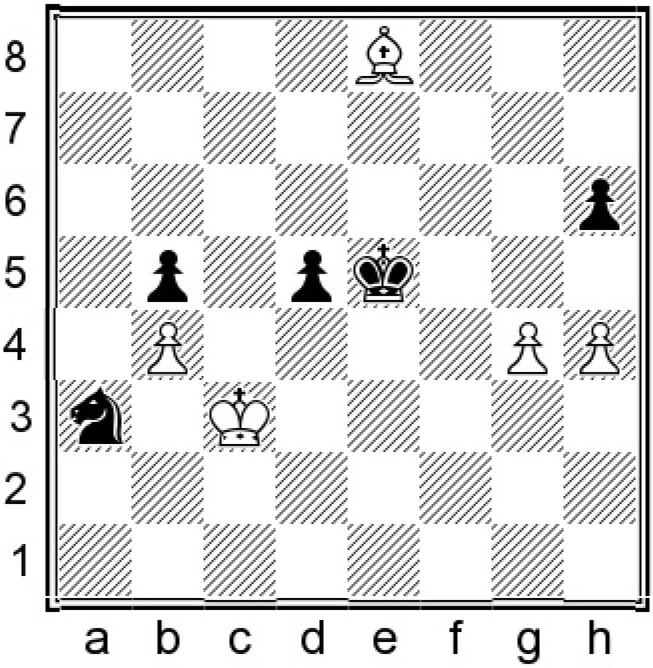
52...♘xa3 53.♔d3

53.♗xa6 ♘c2=

53...♔f6 54.♗xa6 ♔f5 55.♗c8+ ♔e5 56.♗d7 d5 57.♔c3 ♔d6 58.♗e8 ♔e5?

58...♔e7 59.♗h5 (59.♗c6 ♔d6 60.♗e8 ♔e7 61.♗g6 ♔f6 (61...♘c4 62.♔d4 ♔d6 63.♗d3 ♔c6 64.h5 ♔d6 65.♗e2 ♘e5 66.♗xb5 ♘f3+ 67.♔e3 ♘g5 68.♗a6 ♔e5 69.b5 d4+ 70.♔e2 ♔d6 71.b6 ♘e4 72.♔f3 ♘f6 73.g4+-)) 59...♘c4+- 60.♗e2+-

59.g4



59...♔e4?

59...♘c4 60.♗xb5 ♘d6 61.♗e2+-

60.g5 hxg5 61.hxg5 0-1

42. B45
So, Wesley (2778) - Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2762)
chess24.com (Int.-m/1-rapid) 150/42, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 ♘c6 6.♘xc6 bxc6 7.e5 ♘d5 8.♘e4 ♕c7 9.f4 f5

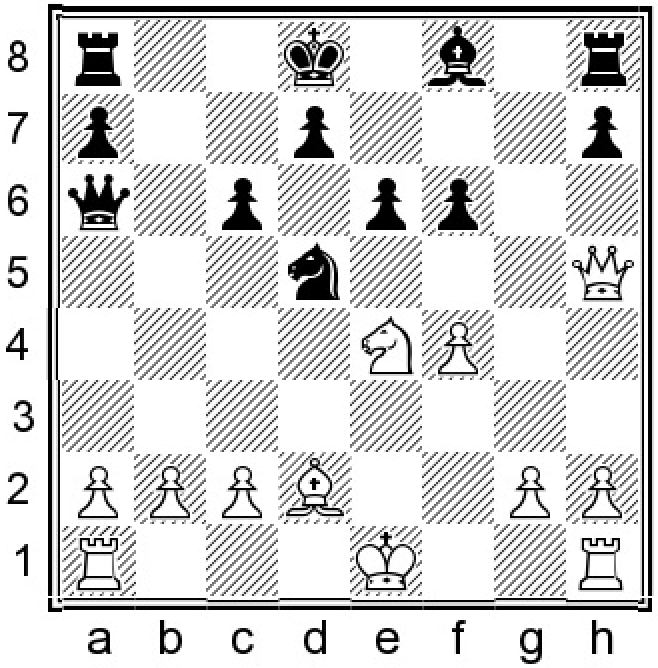
9...♕b6 - 149/45

10.exf6 gxf6 11.♗d3?!

11.♗d2! ♖b8!?= (11...♗e7 12.♕h5+ ♔d8 13.c4 ♘xf4 14.♕f3!? (14.♕h6 ♘g6 15.O-O-O d5 16.♗c3 ♖f8 (16...a5 17.♔b1 ♕f4?! (17...♖f8) 18.♕xf4 ♘xf4 19.♘xf6 e5 20.♗xe5 ♗f5+ 21.♔c1 ♖f8 22.♗xf4

♖xf6 23.cxd5 ♗g4 24.♖d4 ♖xf4 25.♖xf4 ♗g5 26.g3 ♗f3 27.♖g1 ♔c7±) 17.♕xh7 ♘e5 18.♗e2 f5 19.♘d2 ♗f6 20.♕h6 ♘d7 (20...♕g7?! 21.♕e3 a5 22.♖he1 ♘d7 23.♗xf6+ ♖xf6 24.♔b1 f4 25.♕f2 ♖g6 26.♘b3 a4 27.cxd5 cxd5 28.♘c5 (28.♘d4!?) 28...a3 29.♖d2 ♖h6 30.♗d1 ♘xc5 31.♕xc5 ♗d7 32.♕b6+ ♔e7 33.♕b7 ♕h7+ 34.♗c2 ♕h8 35.♗b3 ♕h7+ 36.♔a1+-)) 14...♘g6 15.c5 f5 16.♘d6 ♗xd6 17.cxd6 ♕xd6 18.O-O-O↑)

11...♗a6 12.♗xa6 ♕a5+ 13.♗d2 ♕xa6 14.♕h5+ ♔d8



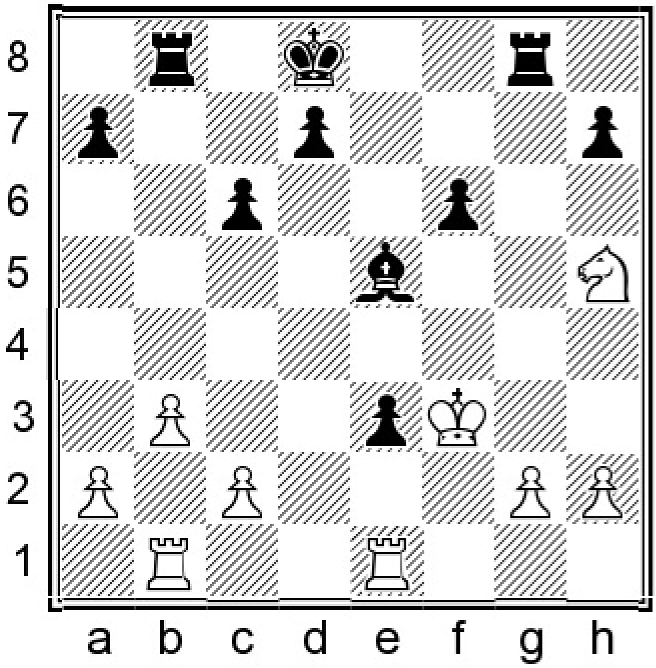
15.f5N

15.b3 ♕b6 (15...f5?! 16.♘g5 ♗g7 17.♖d1 ♖e8 18.c4 ♘f6 19.♕e2 c5 20.♗c3 ♖e7 21.♕b2+-) 16.♕f3 ♖g8 17.c4 f5 18.♘g5 ♘b4 19.♖d1±

15...♕c4!= 16.♕e2 ♕xe2+ 17.♔xe2 exf5 18.♘g3 f4 19.♘h5 ♗d6 20.♔f3 ♗e5 21.♖ab1 ♖g8 22.♖he1 ♖b8 23.b3 ♘e3

23...♘b4!? 24.♖e2 ♘xa2∓

24.♗xe3 fxe3



25.g3! ♖b5 26.♖bd1! ♖g5 27.♘f4 ♗xf4 28.gxf4∓ ♖h5 [Δ Rh3]

28...♖g7 29.h4 ♖h5 30.♖h1 ♔c7 31.c4 ♖a5 32.♖h2=

29.♔g3! ♖h6 [Δ Rbh5] **30.♖xe3 ♖bh5 31.♖ed3! ♖h3+**

31...d5 32.♖h1 ♖g6+ 33.♔f2 ♖h4 34.♖d4 ♔c7=

32.♔g4 ♖xd3 33.♖xd3 ♖xh2= 34.♔f5 ♔e7 35.c4 ♖xa2 36.b4 ♖h2 37.♖e3+ ♔f7 38.♖d3 d5 39.♖a3 ♖h5+ 40.♔g4 ♔g6 41.♖xa7 dxc4 42.♖a6 c5 43.b5 ♖d5 44.b6 h5+ 45.♔h4 ♖d3

45...♖d1 46.♖a5 ♖h1+ 47.♔g3 ♖g1+ 48.♔h3 h4=

46.♖a4 ♖b3 47.♖xc4 ♖xb6 48.♖xc5 ♖b4 49.♖xh5 ♖xf4+ 50.♔g3 ♔xh5 51.♔xf4 f5 52.♔xf5 1/2-1/2

43. B46
Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2639) - Nagy, Gabor (2518)
Reykjavik 150/43, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘c6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗e3 ♘f6 7.a3!?

7.♗e2 - 32/(247)

7...d5!?

7...♗e7 8.f4 d6 9.♕f3 - 137/59

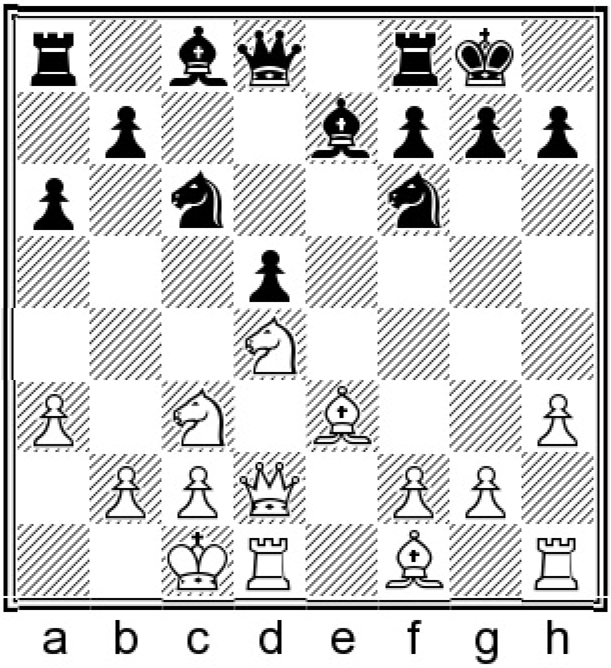
8.exd5 exd5 9.♕d2 ♗e7 10.O-O-O

10.♗d3 ♘g4 11.O-O O-O 12.♘xc6 bxc6 13.♗f4 ♗d6⇄

10...O-O

10...♘g4 11.♘f3 Δ Nd5±

11.h3

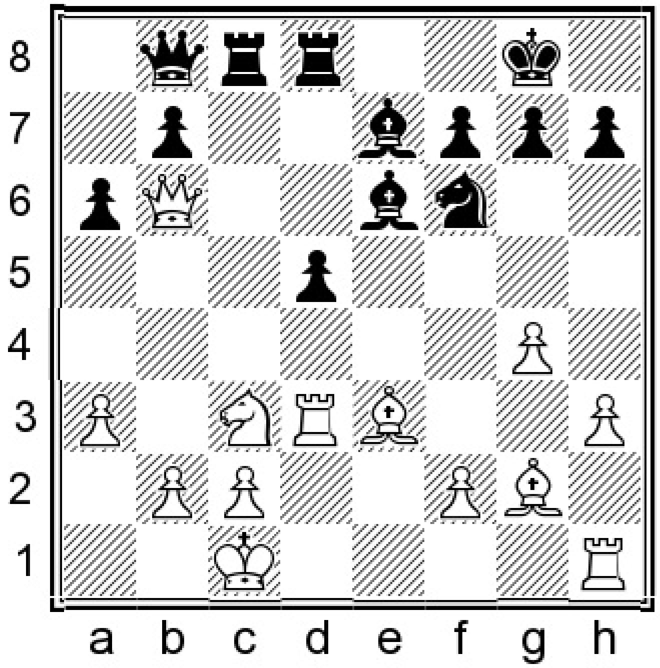


11...♗e6N

11...♖e8

12.g4 ♘xd4 13.♗xd4

13.♕xd4 ♖c8 14.♗g2 ♕c7 15.♖d3 (15.♕b6 ♕xb6 16.♗xb6 ♗xa3 17.♘xd5 ♘xd5 18.♗xd5 ♗e7 19.♖he1 ♗g5+ 20.♔b1 ♗xd5 21.♖xd5 ♖c6 22.♗d4 h6=; 15.♖d2 ♖fe8∞) 15...♖fd8 (15...♖fe8 16.♕b6 ♕c4 17.♖hd1⩲) 16.♕b6 (16.♖hd1 ♕h2!?⇄) 16...♕b8



17.♕a5! (17.♔b1 ♘d7 18.♕a5 b6!⇄) 17...♖c4 18.♘xd5 ♘xd5 19.♗xd5 ♗xd5 (19...♖xd5 20.♖xd5 ♗xd5 21.♕xd5 ♕c8 22.♕d3±) 20.♖xd5 ♖dc8 21.♖d2 b5 22.♖hd1 ♕a8 23.c3±

13...b5

13...♖c8 14.♗g2 b5 15.f4±

14.♗d3

14.♗g2 b4 15.axb4 ♖b8!⇄; 14.♔b1!? b4 (14...♖b8 15.♗xf6 ♗xf6 16.♘xd5 g6 17.♗g2 ♗g7 18.♕b4±) 15.axb4 ♗xb4 (15...♖b8 16.♘a2 ♘e4 17.♕e3 ♗h4 18.♖h2±) 16.♕g5 ♗e7 17.♗g2 (17.♗e5 ♖c8 18.♗g2 h6 19.♕f4 ♕b6⇄) 17...♖b8 18.♗e5 ♖xb2+!? 19.♔xb2 ♕b6+ 20.♔c1 ♗a3+ 21.♔d2 ♕xf2+ 22.♔d3 ♕xg2 23.♗xf6 ♕f3+ 24.♔d2 ♕xf6 25.♕xf6 gxf6 26.♘e2 (26.♖b1 d4 27.♘e2 ♖d8 28.♔d3 f5⇄) 26...♗d6 27.♘d4 a5 28.♖a1 (28.♖b1 ♖a8 29.♘xe6 fxe6 30.♖b6 ♗e5 31.♖xe6 a4 32.c3 ♔f7 33.♖c6 d4=) 28...♖a8 29.♖hb1 ♗e5 30.c3 ♔g7⇄

14...b4!?

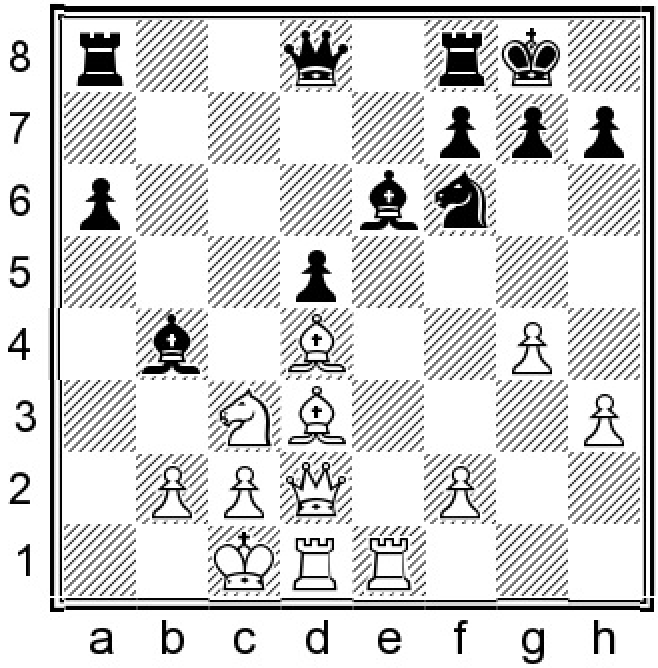
14...♖b8 15.♗f5 (15.♘a2 a5 16.f3 b4⇄) 15...b4 16.axb4 ♗xb4 17.♖he1 ♕a5⇄

15.axb4 ♗xb4

15...♖b8 16.♘a2 ♘e4 17.♕e1±

16.♕f4

16.♖he1!?

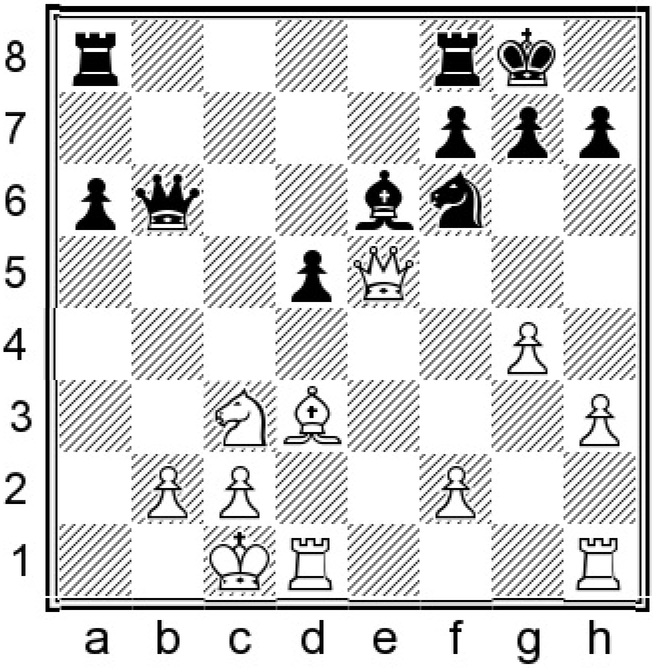


16...♖b8! (16...♖e8 17.♕g5! ♖c8 (17...♗e7 18.♗f5 h6 19.♕f4 ♗d6 20.♕f3±) 18.f3!? h6 19.♕h4 Δ♕a5 20.g5! hxg5 21.♕xg5 ♖xc3 22.♗xf6 ♕a1+ 23.♔d2 ♖c6+ 24.♔e3 ♗d7+ 25.♔f2 ♗xe1+ 26.♔g2 ♖xf6 27.♖xa1 a5 28.♕h5 ♖h6 29.♕xd5 ♗xh3+ 30.♔g1±) 17.♕e3 (17.♕g5 ♗e7 18.♗f5 ♘e8! 19.♕e3 ♘c7 20.f4 ♖b4 21.♗e5 ♗d6 22.♗xe6 fxe6 23.♖d4 a5 24.♖xb4 axb4 25.♘a4 ♕e7∞) 17...♖e8 18.♕g5 (18.g5 ♘e4 19.♘xe4 dxe4 20.♕xe4 ♕xg5+ 21.♖e3 (21.f4 ♕h6∞) 21...g6 22.♗e5 (22.h4?! ♕a5↑) 22...♗c5 23.h4 ♗xe3+ 24.fxe3 ♕g4=) 18...♗e7 19.♗f5 h6 20.♕f4 ♘e4!⇄ 21.♘xe4 dxe4 22.♕e5 (22.♕xe4?! ♗xf5 23.♕xf5 ♗g5+ 24.♗e3 ♕b6!∓) 22...♗f6 23.♕xe4 ♗d7! 24.♕d5 ♗g5+ 25.♗e3 ♗xf5 26.♕xd8 ♗xd8 27.gxf5 ♗f6 28.c3 ♖b5=

16...♗d6 17.♗e5?!

17.♕g5 h6 18.♕h4 ♗f4+ 19.♔b1 ♕a5 20.f3 ♖ab8 21.♘e2 ♖b4 22.♘xf4 ♖xd4 23.♗h7+ ♔xh7 24.♖xd4 g5 25.♕e1 ♕xe1+ 26.♖xe1 gxf4 27.♖xf4 ♔g6 28.♖a4 ♖a8 29.f4 ♗d7 30.♖b4=

17...♗xe5 18.♕xe5 ♕b6?!



18...♕a5 19.f4 (19.♘e2 ♖fc8 20.b3 ♖ab8∓) 19...♘d7! (19...♕a1+ 20.♔d2 ♕xb2 21.♘xd5 ♕xe5 22.♘e7+ ♔h8 23.fxe5 ♘d7 24.♗e4 ♖ab8 25.♘c6 ♖b5 26.♔e3 ♘xe5 27.♖d8=) 20.♕d4 ♖ab8 21.f5 ♖b4 22.♕a7 ♘c5! 23.fxe6 ♖b7 24.♕xb7 ♘xb7 25.exf7+ ♖xf7 26.♔b1 ♘d6 27.♘xd5 g6 28.♖he1 ♕xd5 29.♗xg6 ♕c6 30.♗xf7+ ♔xf7∓; 18...♖b8!? 19.♗f5 ♕b6 20.♘a4 (20.b3 ♖fc8 21.♔b2 ♖c4∓) 20...♕c6! 21.♖d4 (21.♕d4 ♖fc8 22.♘c3 a5∓) 21...♗xf5 22.♕xf5 ♖fc8 23.c3 (23.f3 ♘e8∓) 23...♖b5! 24.♖hd1 ♖a5∓

19.f4?

19.g5! ♘d7 (19...♘e4 20.♗xe4 dxe4 21.♘xe4 ♖ac8 22.♖he1 ♖fe8 23.♖e3 ♕c6 24.♘c3 ♗xh3=) 20.♘xd5 ♗xd5 21.♕f5!? (21.♕xd5 ♘c5 22.♗c4 ♖ab8 23.♕d4 ♕a5 24.♔b1 ♘a4 25.♗b3 ♘c5 26.♗c4=) 21...♖fd8 22.♕xh7+ ♔f8 23.♕h8+ ♔e7 24.♖he1+ ♗e6 25.♕xg7 ♖g8 26.♕c3 ♖ac8 27.♕a3+ ♕c5 28.f4 ♕xa3 29.bxa3 ♔f8 30.f5 ♗b3 31.h4∞

19...♖ab8

19...♖fe8! 20.g5 (20.f5 ♗d7 21.♘xd5 ♘xd5 22.♕xd5 ♗c6 23.♕d6 ♖ad8-+) 20...♗d7! 21.♘xd5 ♘xd5 22.♕xd5 ♗c6 23.♕f5 g6 24.♕f6 ♕e3+ 25.♔b1 ♗xh1 26.♖xh1 ♖e6 27.♕c3 ♕xf4-+

20.♘e2 ♘e4

20...♖fc8 21.♔b1 ♘e4!∓ 22.♗xe4 dxe4 23.♖d6 ♕b4! 24.♖hd1 ♗c4 25.♕c3 (25.♘c1 e3-+) 25...♕a4! 26.b3 ♕e8 27.♕e3 a5-+

21.♗xe4 dxe4 22.♖d2

22.♖d6 ♕e3+ 23.♖d2 ♖fc8 24.♘c3 ♕b6 25.♘d5 (25.♘d1 f6 26.♕xe4 ♖c4 27.♕e3 ♖a4-+) 25...♗xd5 26.♖xd5 ♕e3+ 27.♔b1 ♖e8 28.♕d4 ♕xf4 29.♖e1 g6∓

22...♖fe8

22...f6 23.♕d4 ♕a5 24.♔d1 ♖b4-+

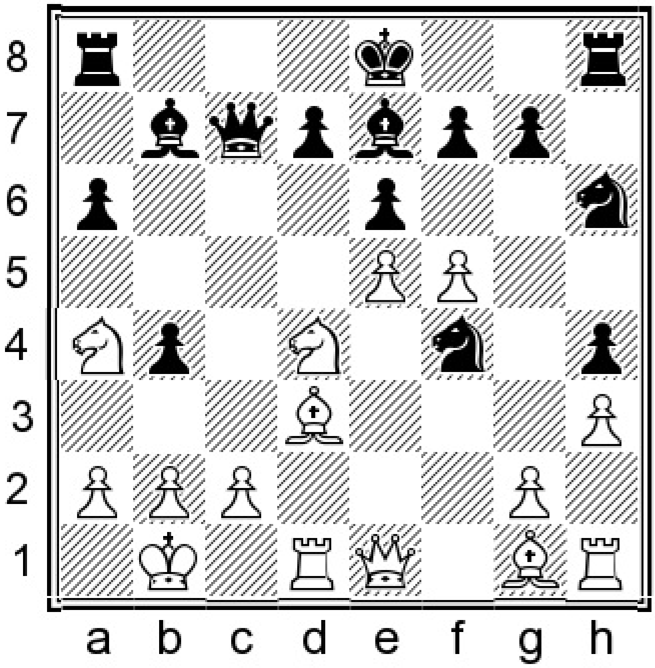
23.♕c3

23.♖d6 ♕b4 24.♘g3 ♗d5! 25.♕xd5 ♕xb2+ 26.♔d2 ♕b4+ 27.♔e2 ♕c3-+

23...e3 24.♖dd1 ♖ec8-+ 25.♕a3 ♖c5 26.b4 a5 27.♖d4 axb4 28.♕xe3 b3 0-1

44. * B48
Sethuraman, SP. (2628) - Moussard, Jules (2631)
Sharjah 150/44, 2021

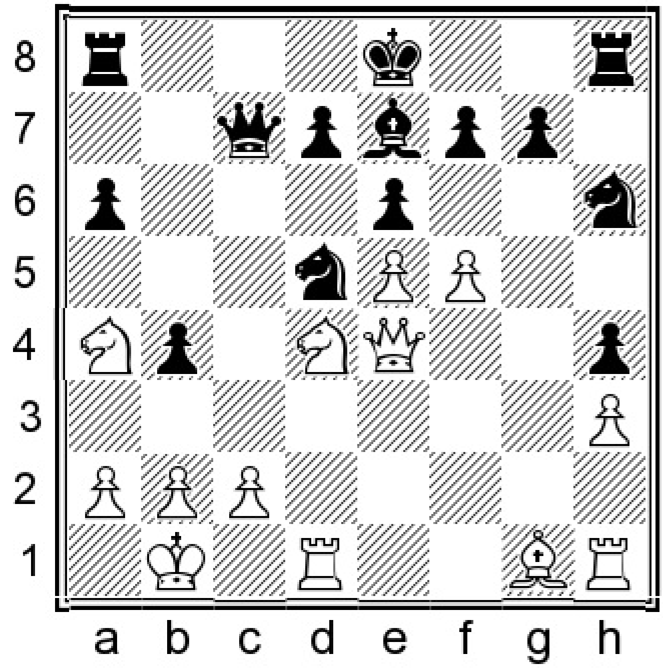
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘c6 5.♘c3 ♕c7 6.♗e3 a6 7.♕f3 ♘f6 8.O-O-O ♘e5 9.♕g3 b5 10.f4 ♘eg4 11.♗g1 h5 12.e5 b4 13.♘a4 ♘d5 14.h3 ♘h6 15.f5 ♗b7 16.♗d3 ♗e7 17.♔b1 h4 18.♕e1 ♘f4



19.♗e4N

19.♘b6 ♖d8 20.♘c4 ♘xd3 21.cxd3 ♗d5∞; 19.♗h2 - 148/49

19...♘xg2 20.♕e2 ♘f4 21.♕f3 ♗xe4 22.♕xe4 ♘d5



23.♕g2N

23.♔a1 - 150/(44) 23...♖c8 24.♖h2 ♕a5 25.b3 ♗g5 26.♖e2 ♘c3 27.♘xc3 bxc3∞ Evans,D-Rawlings,A corr 150/(44) 2021

23.f6 gxf6 24.exf6 ♗xf6 25.♘xe6 fxe6 26.♖xd5 ♕c6 27.♘b6 ♗d8 28.♕g6+ (28.♘xa8 ♕xd5 29.♕xd5 exd5∞) 28...♘f7 29.♖xd7 ♖f8 30.♖xf7 (30.♖d1 ♗xb6 31.♗xb6 ♕xb6 32.♖he1 ♔e7∞) 30...♖xf7 31.♕g8+ ♖f8 32.♕g6+ ♖f7=

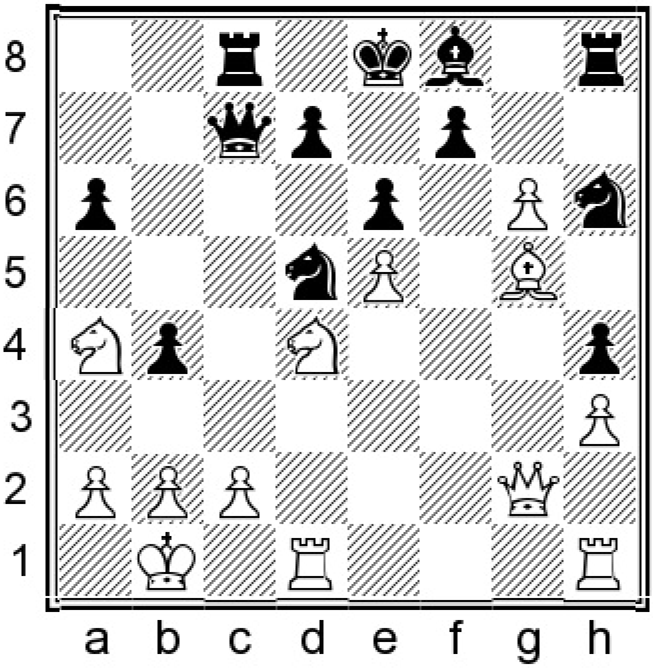
23...♗f8! 24.♗e3

24.fxe6 dxe6 25.♘xe6 fxe6 26.♘b6 ♖d8 27.♘xd5 ♖xd5 28.♖xd5 exd5 29.♕g6+ ♕f7 30.♕c6+ ♕d7 31.♕g6+=

24...♖c8 25.♗g5

25.♗c1 ♘e7! 26.f6 (26.fxe6 dxe6 27.♗g5 ♘ef5∞) 26...gxf6 27.exf6 ♘ef5 28.♗xh6 ♘xh6∞

25...g6 26.fxg6



26...♖g8! 27.♘f3??

27.♗xh6 ♖xg6 28.♗g5 ♗e7 29.♘f3 ♕c6! 30.♖dg1 ♕xa4 31.♕f2 ♕c6 32.♘d4 (32.♗xh4 ♕b6∞) 32...♕c5 33.♗xh4 ♗xh4 34.♕xh4 ♖xg1+ 35.♖xg1 d6∞; 27.♗xh4 ♖xg6 28.♕e4 ♗g7∞

27...♖xg6-+ 28.♕d2 ♘f5 29.♖he1 ♗g7 30.♖c1 ♕a5 31.c4

31.b3 ♘c3+ 32.♔a1 ♘xa4 33.bxa4 ♕xa4-+

31...bxc3 32.♘xc3 ♘xc3+ 33.bxc3 ♖c5 34.♗f4 f6 35.♖e4 fxe5 36.♗g5 ♖d5 37.♕f2 ♕b5+ 38.♔a1 ♕d3 0-1

45. B48
Jemec, Viktor (2440) - Petrov, Milen (2454)
corr 150/45, 2019

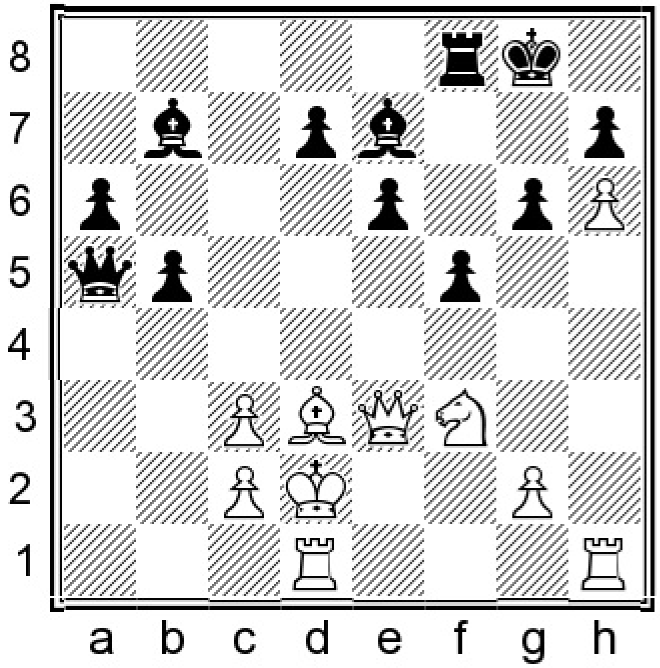
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘c6 5.♘c3 ♕c7 6.♗e3 a6 7.♕d2 ♘f6 8.O-O-O ♗b4 9.f3 ♘e5 10.♘b3 b5 11.♕e1 ♗e7 12.f4 ♘g6 13.e5 ♘g4 14.♘e4 ♘xe3 15.♕xe3 O-O 16.h4 ♗b7 17.h5 ♖ac8 18.♗d3 ♘xe5 19.fxe5 ♕xe5 20.♘bd2 f5 21.♘f3 ♕d5

21...♕c7 - 111/81

22.♘c3± ♖xc3 23.bxc3 ♕xa2 24.h6

24.♔d2 ♕a5 25.h6 g6 26.♗e2 ♗f6 27.♔e1 ♕xc3+ 28.♕xc3 ♗xc3+ 29.♔f1 d5 30.♖h3 ♗f6 31.♘d4 e5 32.♘e6 ♖c8 33.g4 f4 34.g5 ♗e7 35.♗g4+-

24...g6 25.♔d2 ♕a5



26.♗e2N

26.♖a1 ♕c7 27.♕e5 ♗g5+ 28.♔e1 ♕xe5+ 29.♘xe5 ♖d8 30.♘f3 ♗f6 31.♖a3 e5 32.♗e2=

26...♗f6 27.♔e1 ♕xc3+

27...♕c7 28.♔f1 f4 (28...♗xc3 29.♖xd7 ♕xd7 30.♕xc3 ♖c8 31.♕b2 ♕c7 32.♘e1 e5±) 29.♕d3 d5 30.♘d4 ♖e8 31.♗f3 e5 32.♘xb5 axb5 33.♗xd5+ ♔f8 34.♗xb7 ♕xb7 35.♖h3 ♖d8 36.♕e2 ♖xd1+ 37.♕xd1+-

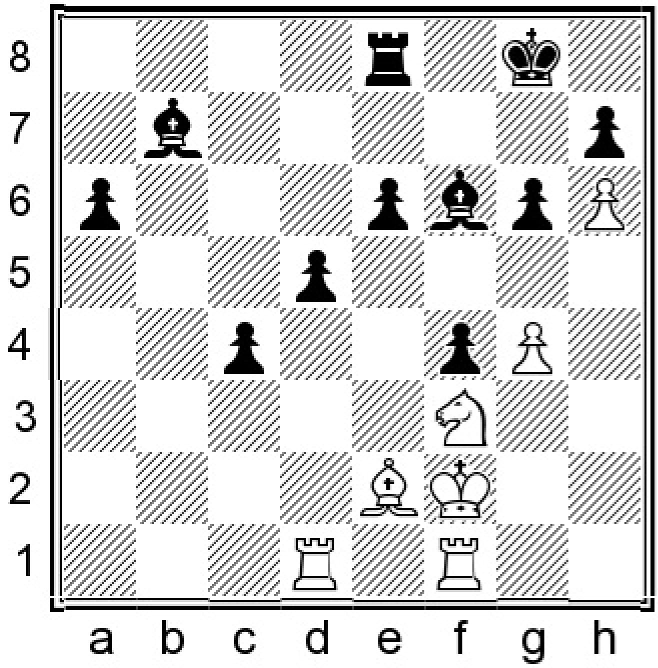
28.♕xc3 ♗xc3+ 29.♔f2 d5 30.♖hf1 ♗h8 31.♘g5

31.♘d4 ♔f7 32.♘f3 ♔g8 33.♘g5 ♖e8 34.g4 ♗f6 35.♘f3 f4 36.c4 bxc4 37.g5 (37.♖b1 ♗c6 38.♖b6 ♗b5 39.♖d1 ♗e7 40.♔f1 ♗c5 41.♖b7 ♖e7 42.♖b8+ ♖e8 43.♖xe8+ ♗xe8 44.♖a1 ♗b5 45.♗d1 ♔f7 (45...e5 46.♗a4 ♗xa4 47.♖xa4 e4 48.♘e1 ♗f8 49.♘c2 ♔f7 50.♖xa6 ♗xh6 51.♖d6 f3 52.♖xd5 ♔e6 53.♖c5 ♗d2 54.♘d4+ ♔d6 55.♖xc4 ♔e5 56.♖a4+-) 46.♗a4 ♗e3 47.♗xb5 axb5 48.♖a8 c3 49.♖c8 b4 50.♔e2+-) 37...♗e7 38.♘e5 ♗c8 39.♖b1 ♗xg5 40.♗d1±

31...♖e8 32.g4

32.♔g3 ♗f6 33.♔h4 ♗c6 34.♖a1 ♖a8 35.g4 a5 36.♖ab1 b4 37.c4 d4 38.c5 ♗g2 39.♗f3 ♗xf3 (39...♗xf1? 40.♗xa8 ♗b5 41.c6 ♔f8 42.gxf5 gxf5 43.♖e1 e5 44.♔h5 ♔e7 45.♘xh7 ♗h8 46.♖c1+-) 40.♖xf3 ♖a6 41.♖e1 ♔f8 42.♖f2 ♔e7 43.gxf5 gxf5 44.♔h5 ♗xg5 45.♔xg5+-

32...♗f6 33.♘f3 f4 34.c4 bxc4



34...dxc4?! 35.g5 ♗xf3 36.♔xf3 ♗xg5 37.♖h1 ♔f7+-

35.♖b1! ♗c6 36.♖b6 ♗b5 37.♖d1 ♔f7

⌓37...♗e7 38.♔g2 e5 39.♘xe5 ♗c5 40.♖xb5 axb5 41.♖xd5 ♗d4 42.♖xd4 ♖xe5 43.♔f2±

38.g5↑ ♗c3 39.♔g2 ♔e7 40.♖c1+- ♗b2 41.♖b1 ♗c3 42.♖b7+ ♔d6 43.♖xh7 e5 44.♖g7 ♔c5 45.♖xg6 e4 46.h7 ♖h8 47.♖h1 exf3+

47...♗d7 48.♖xa6 ♗f5 49.g6 exf3+ 50.♗xf3 ♖b8 51.♖d1 ♖b2+ 52.♔f1 ♖b1 53.♖xb1 ♗xb1 54.♔e2 ♗d3+ 55.♔d1+-

48.♗xf3

48.♔xf3?! d4 49.♔xf4=

48...♗d4 49.♗d1

49.♖g8 ♗d7 50.g6 ♗e6 51.g7 ♖xg8 52.hxg8=Q ♗xg8 53.♖h8 ♗e6 54.♖c8+ ♔b4 55.g8=Q ♗xg8 56.♖xg8+-

49...c3 50.♗c2 ♗e2

50...f3+ 51.♔xf3 ♖f8+ 52.♔g3 ♗e2 53.♖f6 ♖xf6 54.gxf6 ♗xf6 55.♔f4+-

51.♖e6 f3+ 52.♔g3 ♖f8 53.g6 1-0

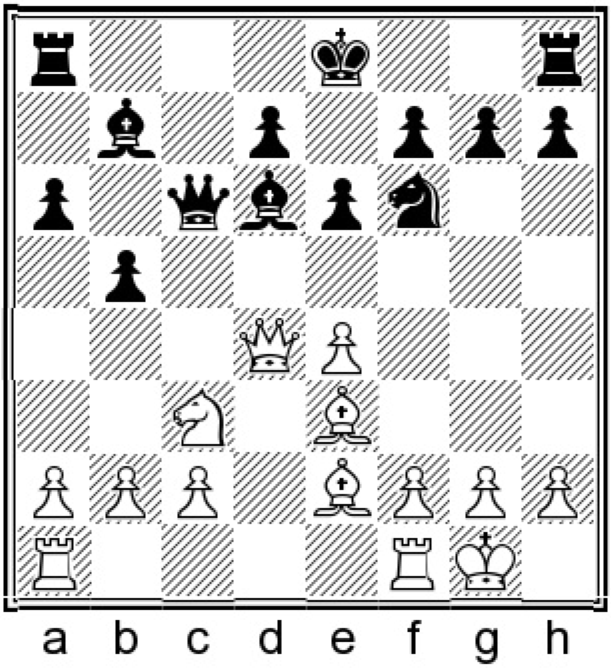
46. * B48
Sanal, Vahap (2585) - Blomqvist, Erik (2518)
Fagernes 150/46, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘c6 5.♘c3 ♕c7 6.♗e3 a6 7.♗d3 ♘f6 8.O-O b5 9.♘xc6 ♕xc6

10.♗e2

10.a3 - 129/54

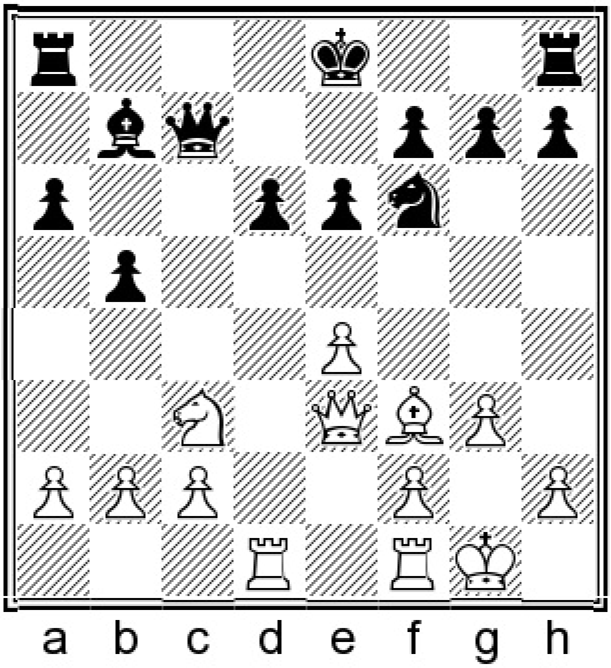
10...♗d6 11.♕d4 ♗b7



12.♖ad1

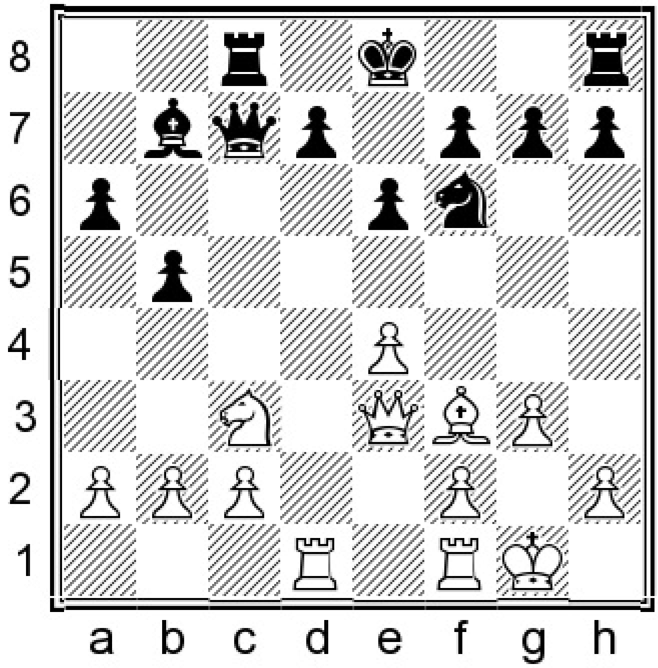
12.♖fd1!? ♗b8 13.a4 ♕c7 14.e5 ♕xe5 15.♕xe5 ♗xe5 16.axb5 axb5 17.♖xa8+ ♗xa8 18.♘xb5 O-O 19.b4 ♘d5∞

12...♗b8 13.♗f3 ♕c7 14.g3 ♗a7 15.♕d3 ♗xe3 16.♕xe3 d6



- 150/46

16...♖c8N


8
7
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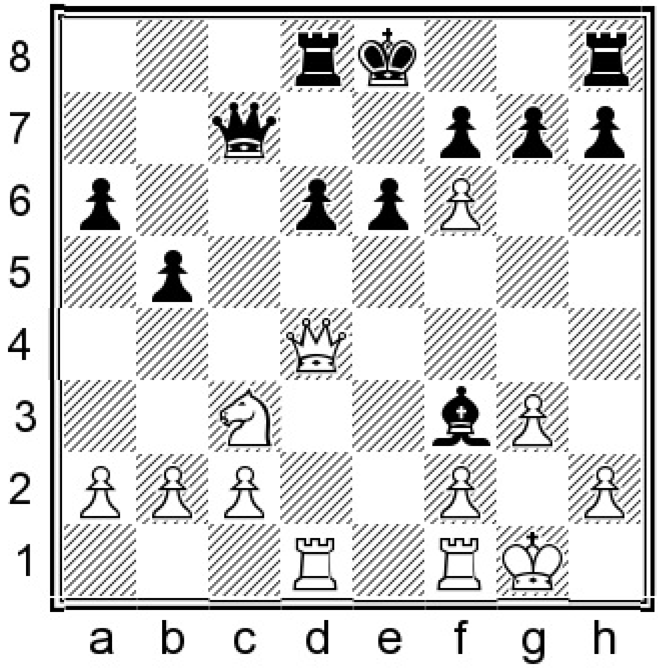
2
1
a b c d e f g h

17.e5! ♗xf3 18.exf6 ♗xd1 19.♘d5 ♕d8 20.♖xd1 gxf6 (20...g6 21.♘e7 ♖xc2 22.♕e4 ♖c4 23.♕b7±) 21.♕h6 exd5 22.♖e1+ ♕e7 23.♖xe7+ ♔xe7 24.♕e3+ ♔f8 25.♕h6+ ♔e7 26.c3± Huschenbeth,N (2592)-Kacharava,N (2453) Reykjavik 150/(46) 2021

17.♕d3N

17.a3 O-O 18.♖d4 h6 19.♖fd1 ♖fd8∞; 17.♕d4!? ♖d8 18.e5 ♗xf3 19.exf6


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

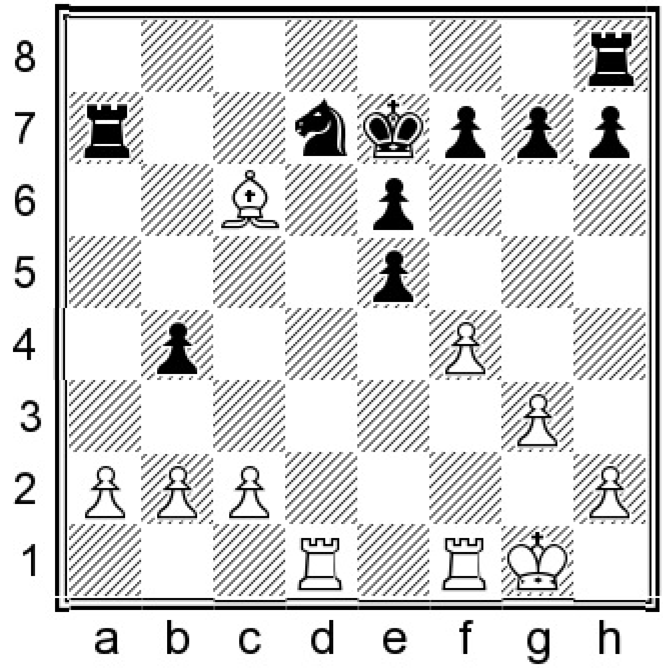
19...♕c5! 20.fxg7 ♖g8 21.♕f4 (21.♕xc5 dxc5 22.♖xd8+ ♔xd8 23.♖e1 ♔d7=; 21.♕h4 ♕h5=)

21...♗xd1 22.♘e4 ♕e5 23.♘f6+ ♔e7 24.♘xg8+ ♖xg8 25.♕xe5 dxe5 26.♖xd1 ♖xg7=

17...b4 18.e5!?

18.♘e2 O-O 19.♕xd6 ♕xd6 20.♖xd6 a5=

18...dxe5 19.♘b5 axb5 20.♕xb5+ ♘d7 21.♕xb7 ♕xb7 22.♗xb7 ♖a7 23.♗c6 ♔e7 24.f4?



24.♗xd7 ♖xd7 25.♖xd7+ ♔xd7 26.f4 (26.♖e1 ♔d6 27.♖e4 ♖b8=) 26...♖c8 27.fxe5 ♖xc2 28.♖xf7+ ♔c6 29.♖f2 ♖c1+ 30.♔g2 ♔d5=

24...♘b6!∓ 25.fxe5 ♖c8 26.♗e4 ♘c4 27.♖d4 ♖xa2 28.g4?

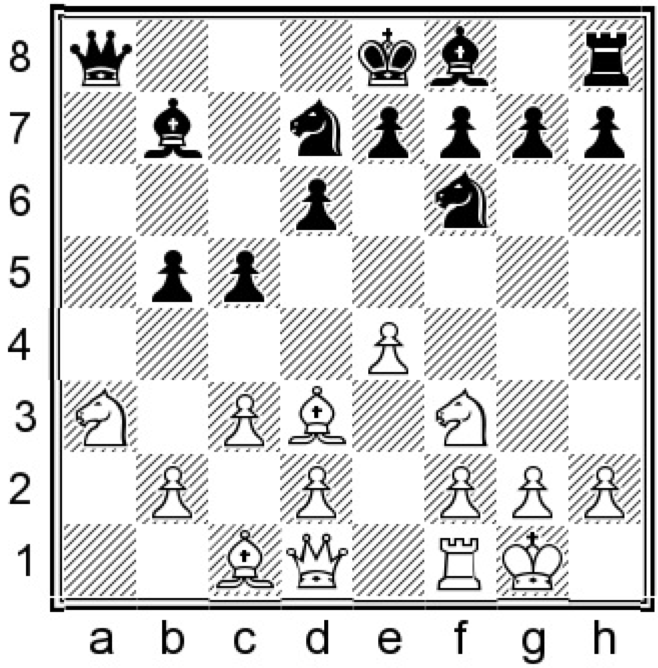
28.♗d3 ♘xe5 (28...♘xb2? 29.♖xb4 ♘xd3 30.♖b7+ ♔e8 31.cxd3=) 29.♖xb4 f5 30.♖b6 ♖c5∓

28...♖xb2-+ 29.♖a1 ♘xe5 30.♖a7+ ♔f6 31.♖d1 ♖c4 32.♖e1 b3 0-1

B50-B74

47. * B51
Dubov, Daniil (2714) - Saric, Ivan (2644)
Riga 150/47, 2021

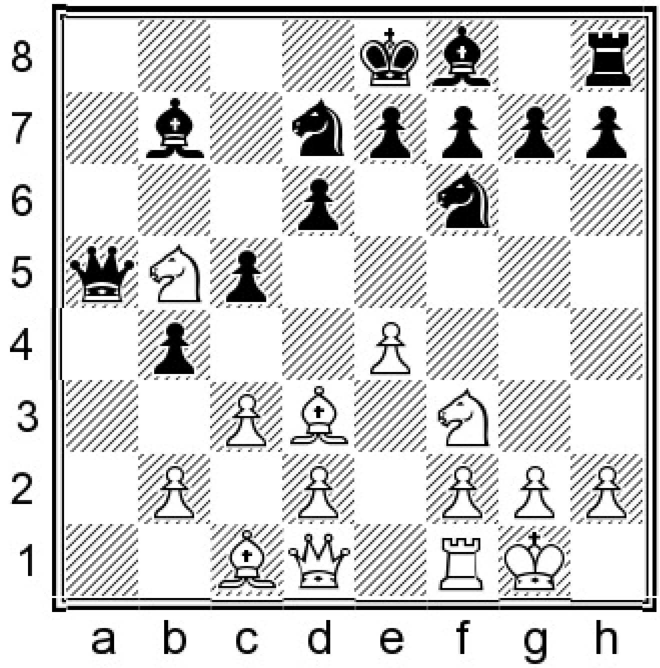
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+ ♘d7 4.O-O a6 5.♗d3 ♘gf6 6.c3 b5 7.a4 ♗b7 8.axb5 axb5 9.♖xa8 ♕xa8 10.♘a3


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

10...b4N

10...♗xe4 - 147/47

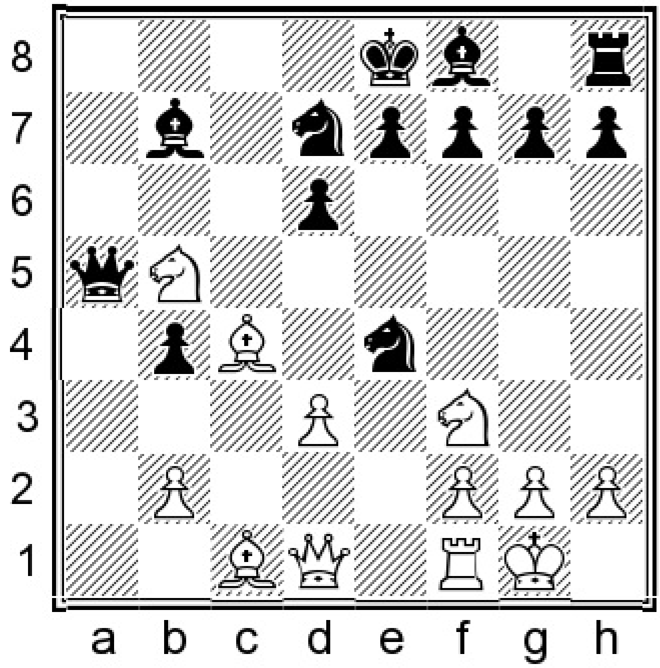
11.♘b5 ♕a5



12.cxb4N

12.♕e2 - 150/(47) 12...e5 13.♗c2 ♗c6 14.c4 ♗e7 15.♘h4 g6∞ Pogany,Z (2259)-Papadiamandis,E (2333) Budapest 150/(47) 2021

12...cxb4 13.♗c4 ♘xe4 14.d3



14...d5!

14...♘ef6 15.♖e1 e6 16.♗f4 ♕b6 17.♘g5→

15.♗f4 e5 16.♘xe5 dxc4

16...♘xe5 17.♕h5 (17.♗xe5 dxc4 18.dxc4 f6! 19.♖e1 h5! (19...fxe5 20.♕h5+ ♔d8 21.♕xe5∞) 20.♗c7 ♕a6 21.f3 ♗c5+ 22.♔h1 O-O 23.fxe4 ♕e6∓) 17...♘xc4 18.dxc4 ♗e7 (18...♗c5 19.♕e5+ ♔d7 20.♕f5+ ♔e7 21.♕e5+=) 19.♕e5 ♕d8 20.cxd5 O-O 21.♕xe4 ♗xd5∞

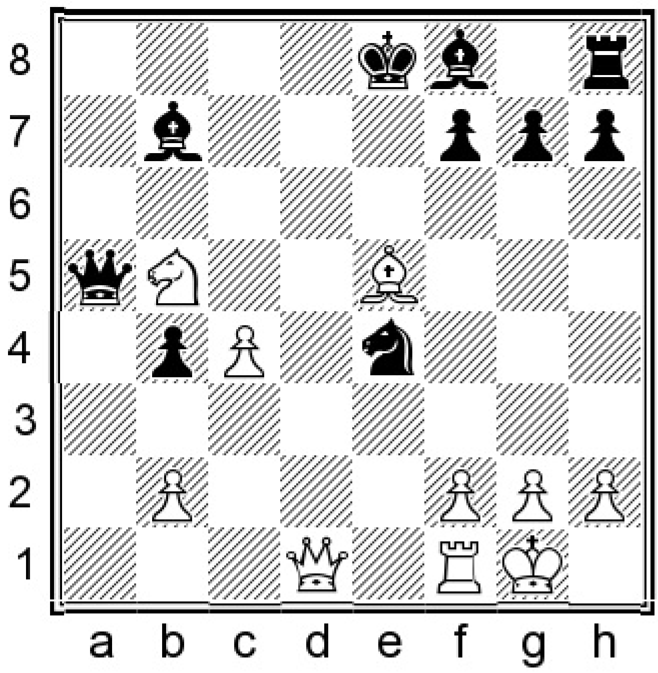
17.dxc4?

17.♕h5 ♕xb5 (17...g6 18.♘xc4 ♕a4 (18...gxh5? 19.♘xa5±) 19.b3 gxh5 (19...♕xb3?? 20.♕e2+-) 20.bxa4 ♘ec5 21.♖e1+ ♘e6 22.♘bd6+ ♗xd6 23.♘xd6+ ♔f8 24.♗h6+ ♔e7 25.♘xb7∞) 18.♕xf7+ ♔d8 19.dxe4 ♘xe5 (19...♗d6 20.♘xd7 ♕xd7 21.♕xd7+ ♔xd7 22.♖d1 ♔c6 23.♖xd6+ ♔c5∞) 20.♗xe5 ♕xe5 21.♕xb7 ♔e8 22.♖a1 (22.♖d1 ♗d6 23.♕c8+ ♔e7 24.♕xh8 ♕xh2+ 25.♔f1 ♕h1+ 26.♔e2 ♕xg2=) 22...♗e7 23.♖a8+ ♗d8 24.♖a7 ♗e7=

17...♘xe5?

17...♕d8! 18.♕h5 (18.♘d3 ♗e7 19.f3 ♘dc5 20.♘c7+ ♔f8 21.♘xb4 ♘d6∓) 18...♘xe5 19.♕xe5+ ♗e7 20.♕xg7 (20.♘c7+ ♔f8 21.♘d5 ♗xd5 22.cxd5 ♘d6-+) 20...♗f6 21.♘c7+ ♔e7 22.♕g4 ♖g8 23.♕e2 ♔f8∓

18.♗xe5



18...♗c5?!

18...f6!

19.♗d6

19.♕g4 ♘xf2 20.♕xg7 ♘h3+ 21.♔h1 ♘f2+=

19...♗xd6 20.♘xd6+ ♘xd6 21.♕xd6 ♗c8 22.♖e1+ ♗e6 23.♖d1 ♕a8 24.c5 ♕c8 25.c6 h5 26.♖e1

26.h4 f6 27.♖a1 ♔f7 28.♖a7+ ♔g6 29.♖c7 ♕b8 30.♕d3+ ♗f5 31.♕g3+ ♗g4=

26...♖h6 27.♖e5 ♕d8

27...b3 28.h4 ♕d8 29.♕c5 ♕c7 30.♖e4∞

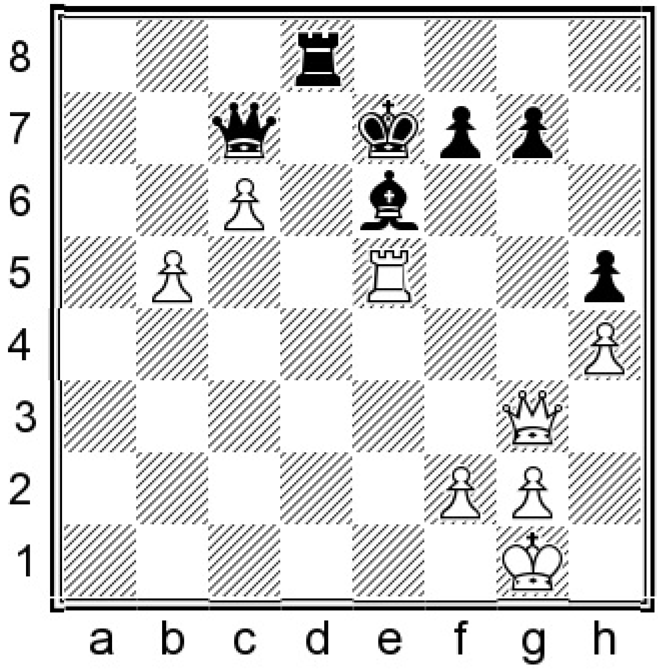
28.♕xb4 ♕c7

⌓28...♖f6 29.h3 ♖f5 30.♕a4 ♔e7 31.♖xf5 ♗xf5 32.b4=

29.♕c5 ♕e7 30.♕c3 ♕c7 31.b4 ♔e7

31...♖f6 32.♖xh5 ♖f4 33.♕xg7 (33.♖h8+ ♔e7 34.♕c5+ ♔f6 35.♖h5 g6 36.♕g5+ ♔g7 37.♕h6+ ♔f6=) 33...♕xc6 34.♖h8+ ♔d7∞

32.b5 ♖h8 33.♕g3 ♖d8 34.h4



34...♔f8??

34...♖d1+ 35.♔h2 ♕d6 36.♕xg7 ♖d5 37.f4 ♖xe5 38.fxe5 (38.♕xe5 ♕xe5 39.fxe5 ♔d8 40.b6 ♔c8!= (40...♗d5?? 41.c7+ ♔c8 42.g4!+-)) 38...♕c5 39.♕g5+ ♔e8 40.♕xh5 ♕xb5 41.♕h8+ ♔e7 42.c7 ♕d7 43.h5 ♕xc7 44.h6 ♔d7 45.h7 ♗f5=

35.♖xe6! ♕xg3 36.fxg3 fxe6 37.c7 ♔e7

37...♖d1+ 38.♔h2 ♖c1 39.b6+-

38.cxd8=Q+ ♔xd8 39.♔f2 ♔c7 40.♔e3 ♔b6 41.♔d4 ♔xb5 42.♔e5 1-0

48. B51
Sargsyan, Anna M (2402) - Hayrapetyan, Hovik (2488)
Armenia (ch) 150/48, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+ ♘d7 4.O-O a6 5.♗d3 ♘gf6 6.c3 b5 7.♗c2 ♗b7 8.d3!?

8.♖e1!? c4 9.a4 e6 10.d4 cxd3 11.♕xd3 ♘c5 12.♕e2 bxa4 13.♗e3 ♘fd7 14.♗d4 e5 15.♗xc5 ♘xc5 16.c4 ♗e7 17.♗xa4+ ♘xa4 18.♖xa4 O-O 19.♘c3=

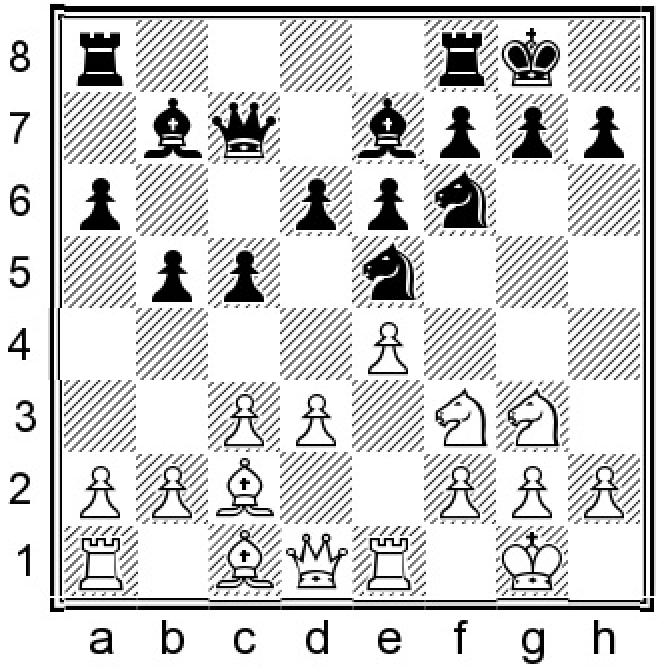
8...♕c7

8...c4?! 9.dxc4 bxc4 10.♕e2±

9.♖e1 e6

9...g6 10.♘bd2 ♗g7 11.♘f1 O-O 12.♘g3 e5 13.♗g5 h6 14.♗d2 d5∓

10.♘bd2 ♗e7 11.♘f1 O-O 12.♘g3 ♘e5



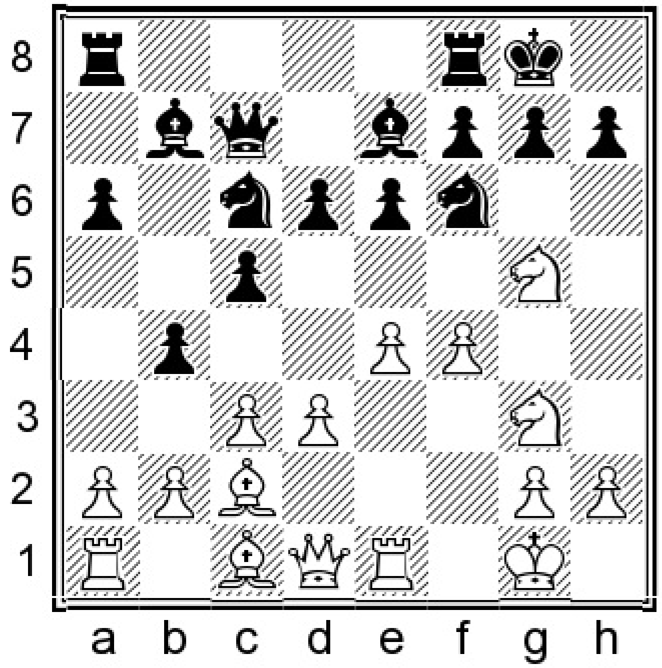
13.♘g5!?N

13.h3 ♘fd7 14.♘h2 d5∓

13...♘c6

13...h6 14.♘h3 ♘g6 15.f4 ♘h4∞

14.f4 b4

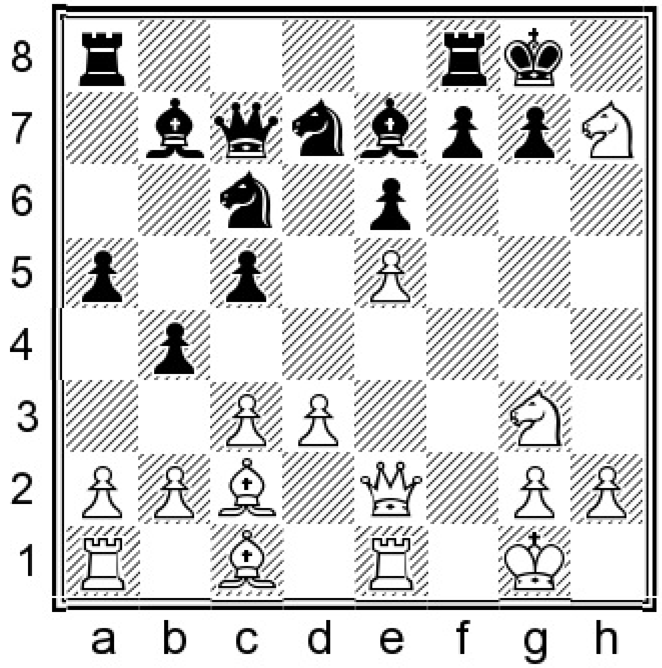


15.♕e2

15.f5! h6 16.♘h3±

15...a5 16.e5 ♘d7?

16...dxe5?! 17.fxe5 ♘d7 18.♘xh7!



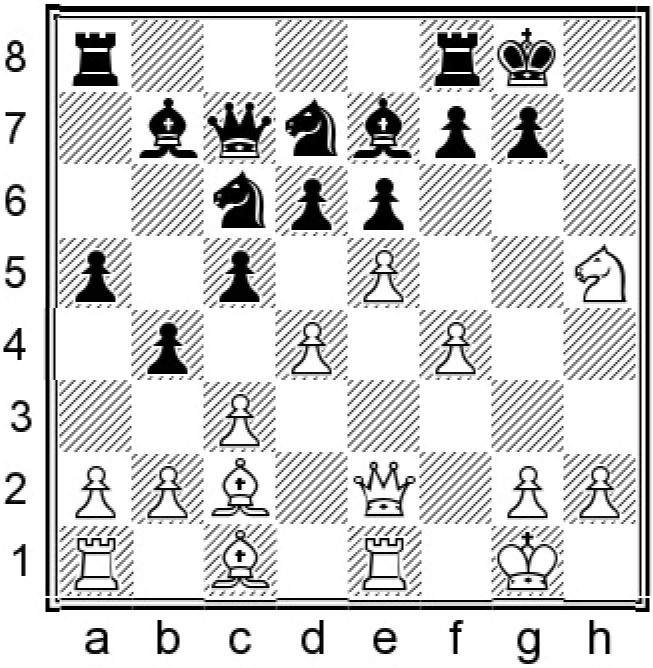
18...♖fc8!! (18...♔xh7? 19.d4+ ♔g8 20.♘h5 g6 21.♕g4+-) 19.♘f6+ (19.♘g5 ♘cxe5 20.♕h5 ♗xg5 21.♗xg5=) 19...♘xf6 20.exf6 ♗xf6 21.♖f1! ♘e7 (21...bxc3 22.♖xf6 gxf6 23.bxc3 ♕e5 24.♕g4+ ♔f8 25.♗d2→) 22.♗f4 ♕d8 23.♘e4 ♘f5=; 16...♘d5!? 17.♕h5∞ (17.♘xh7? bxc3! 18.bxc3 ♔xh7 19.♕h5+ (19.d4+ g6 20.f5 exf5 21.♘xf5 dxe5-+) 19...♔g8 20.d4 f5 21.exf6 ♘xf6 22.♕g6 ♘d8∓;

17.d4∞)16...♘e8!?=

17.♘xh7!! ♔xh7 18.d4+ ♔g8

18...g6 19.f5! exf5 20.♘xf5! ♖h8 (20...♖ae8 21.♕e3+-) 21.♘xe7 ♘xe7 22.exd6+-

19.♘h5!!



19.♕h5? f5∓

19...g6?

19...♖fe8? 20.♘xg7! ♔xg7 21.♕g4+ ♔f8 22.f5+-; 19...f5! 20.exf6 ♘xf6 (20...♗xf6 21.♕d3!+- (21.♕xe6+? ♖f7 22.♗g6 ♘f8 23.♘xf6+ gxf6 24.♗xf7+ ♕xf7 25.♕xf7+ ♔xf7∞)) 21.♕xe6+ ♖f7 22.♗g6 ♗f8 23.d5! ♘xh5 24.♗xh5 ♘d8 25.♕h3 ♖f6 26.f5 ♘f7 27.g4! g6 28.♗xg6 ♖xg6 29.fxg6 ♘e5 30.♗g5 ♘xg6 31.♖e6 ♕h7 32.♕xh7+ ♔xh7 33.c4±

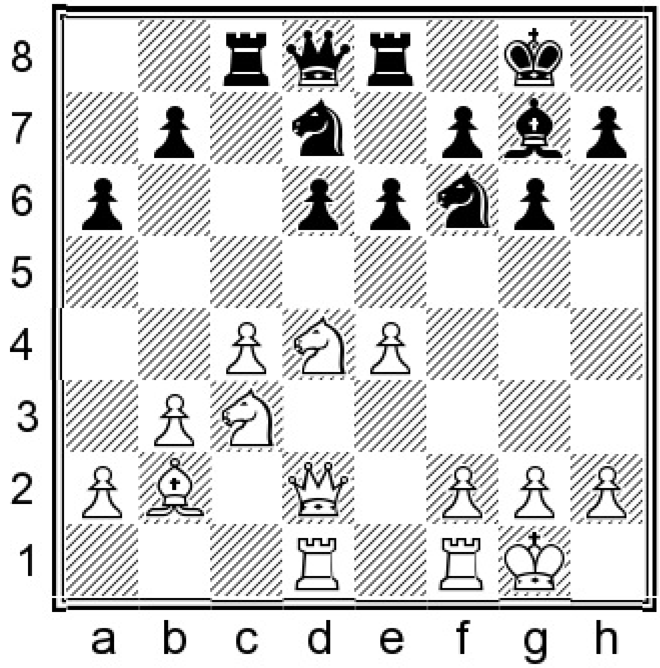
20.♕g4! ♔h7 21.f5! exf5 22.♕f4! 1-0

49. B52
Santiago, Yago de Moura (2478) - Supi, Luis Paulo (2572)
Brazil (ch) 150/49, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+ ♗d7 4.♗xd7+ ♘xd7 5.O-O ♘gf6 6.♕e2 ♖c8 7.b3 g6 8.♗b2 ♗g7 9.c4

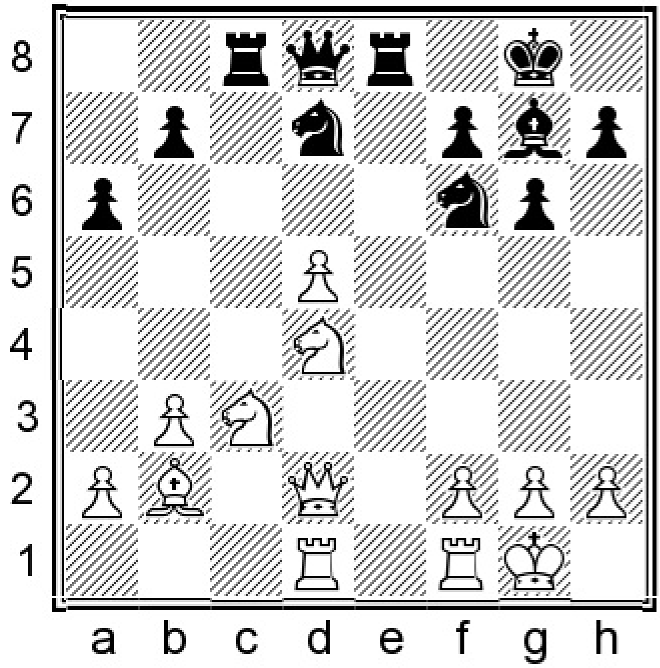
9.d4 cxd4 10.♘xd4 ♘c5 11.♘d2 O-O 12.c4=; 9.d3 - 100/ (123)

9...O-O 10.d4 cxd4 11.♘xd4 a6 12.♘c3 e6 13.♖ad1 ♖e8 14.♕d2



14...♕a5N

14...d5! 15.exd5 exd5 16.cxd5



(16.♘xd5 ♘xd5 17.cxd5 ♘f6=) 16...♘c5! (16...♘b6 17.♘f3) 17.♖fe1 ♘ce4 18.♘xe4 ♘xe4 19.♕b4 ♕xd5 20.♘f3 ♕f5 21.♗xg7 ♔xg7 22.♕xb7 ♘c3 23.♖xe8 ♖xe8 24.♕d7 ♕xd7 25.♖xd7 ♘xa2=

15.♖fe1 ♖ed8 16.♕e2 ♘h5 17.♕e3 h6 18.g3 ♘hf6 19.h3 ♕h5 20.♔g2 ♕c5 21.♕e2 ♖b8 22.♘a4

22.♖d2±

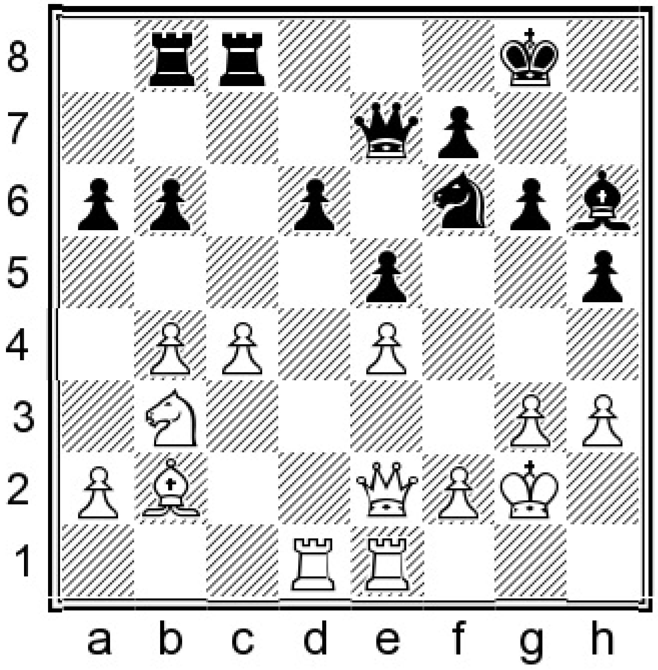
22...♕c7 23.♖c1 b6 24.b4!? [Δ b5, Nc6] **24...e5**

24...♕b7 25.b5 ♖dc8!? 26.♘c6 ♖xc6 27.bxc6 ♕xc6 28.♘c3∞

25.♘b3?!

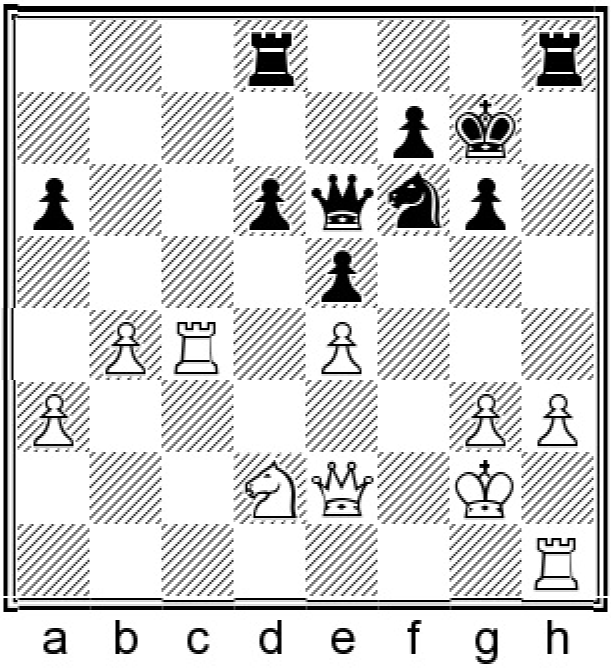
25.♘c2! (Δ Ne3) 25...h5 (25...b5 26.cxb5 axb5 27.♘c3 ♕b7 28.♖cd1±) 26.♘c3 ♗h6 27.♖cd1 ♖bc8 28.♘e3 (28.b5!?) 28...♗xe3 29.♕xe3 ♕xc4 30.♖xd6 ♕xb4 31.♕d2=∞

25...♖dc8 26.♘d2 h5! 27.♘c3 ♗h6 28.♘d5 ♕d8 29.♘xf6+ ♘xf6 30.♖cd1 ♕e7 31.♘b3?



31.♘f3 ♕e6 32.♗c1 ♗f8 33.♗g5!=

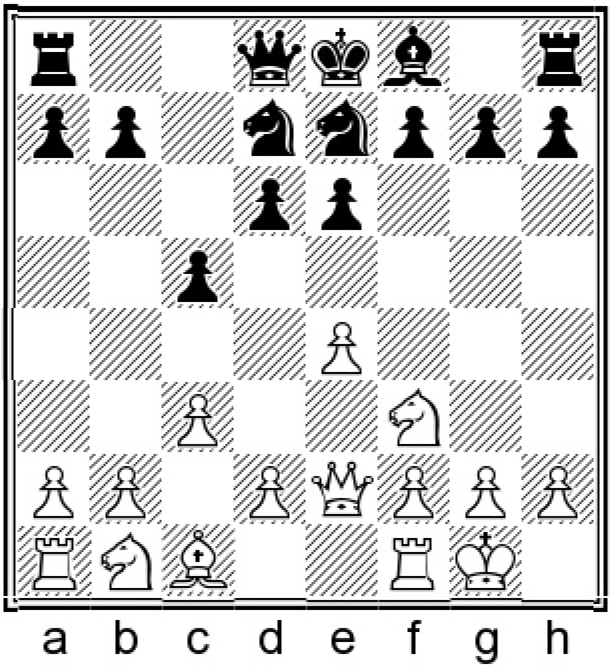
31...h4!∓ 32.♗c1 ♗xc1 33.♖xc1 hxg3 34.fxg3 ♔g7 35.♘d2 b5! 36.a3 ♕e6 37.♕d3 ♖h8 38.♖h1 ♖bd8 39.♕e2 bxc4 40.♖xc4



40...d5! 41.♖c2 ♖c8 42.♖xc8 ♖xc8-+ 43.♘b3 ♘xe4 44.♖c1 ♖xc1 45.♘xc1 ♘c3 46.♕e1 d4 47.♘d3 e4 0-1

50. B52
Gleichmann, Matthias - Voveris, Gediminas
corr 150/50, 2019

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+ ♗d7 4.♗xd7+ ♘xd7 5.O-O e6 6.♕e2 ♘e7 7.c3



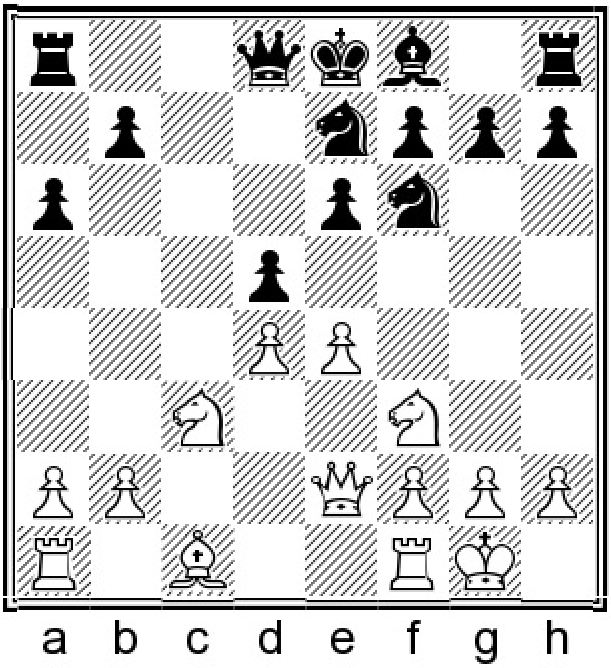
7...a6N

7...♘g6 - 74/228

8.d4 cxd4

8...♘g6 9.♖d1 ♗e7 10.g3 ♕a5 11.♗e3 cxd4 12.cxd4 ♕h5 13.♘c3 (13.♔g2 O-O 14.♘c3 ♖ac8 15.d5 (15.♖ac1 ♘b6 16.d5 ♘c4 17.♖c2 ♖c7 18.♗c1 ♖fc8 19.h3 ♘f8 20.b3 ♘e5 21.♘d4 (21.♘xe5 ♕xe2 22.♖xe2 dxe5 23.d6 ♗xd6 24.♖xd6 ♖xc3 25.♗b2 ♖3c7 26.♗xe5=) 21...♕xe2 22.♘dxe2 ♘ed7=) 15...♘ge5 16.♘xe5 ♕xe2 17.♘xe2 ♘xe5 18.♖ac1 ♘g4±) 13...O-O 14.d5 ♘f6 15.♔g2 exd5 16.♘xd5 ♘xe4 17.♖ac1 ♘f6=

9.cxd4 d5 10.♘c3 ♘f6



11.e5! ♘d7 12.♕e3

12.h4 ♘c6 13.♕e3 ♗b4 14.h5 h6 15.♕f4 (15.♘e2 O-O 16.♕f4 ♔h8 17.♕e3 (17.♕g4 ♗e7 18.♗d2 a5 19.♕h3 ♕b6 20.♗c3 a4 21.a3 ♕b3 22.♔h2 ♘b6 23.g4±) 17...a5 18.♖b1 a4 19.g3=) 15...O-O 16.♘e2 ♗e7 17.♕g4 (17.♗d2 a5 18.♕g3 ♔h8 19.♕h3 ♘b6 20.♔h1 ♘c4 21.♗c1±) 17...♔h8 18.♘f4 ♖c8 19.♔h1 ♖e8=; 12.♕d2 ♘b8 13.♘e2 ♘f5 14.♕f4 ♘c6 15.♘g3 ♘ce7 16.♘h5 ♘g6 17.♕d2 ♘gh4 18.♘e1 ♕b6 19.g3 ♘g6 20.♘c2 ♖c8 21.♕d3 ♕c7±

12...♘f5 13.♕d3 ♘e7

13...♘b8 14.♘e2 ♘c6 15.♗d2 ♗e7 (15...h6 16.♖ac1 a5 17.g4 ♘fe7±) 16.♖ac1 (16.a3 ♕b6 17.♖ac1 h5 18.♖c3 a5 19.♖fc1 ♕a6=) 16...♕b6 17.♖c3 h5 18.a3 a5 19.♖fc1 ♕a6 20.♕c2 (20.♕xa6 ♖xa6 21.♖b3 (21.h3 ♔d7 22.g4 ♘h6=) 21...♖a7 22.g3 a4 23.♖bc3=) 20...O-O 21.♗e3=

14.♖d1 ♖c8 15.♘e2 ♘c6

15...♕c7 16.♘e1 ♘b8 17.h4 ♕c4 18.h5 ♘bc6 19.♔f1 (19.♕f3 ♘f5 20.b3 ♕b5 21.♗f4 g6 22.♘c2 ♗e7 23.♘e3 ♘xe3 24.♗xe3 (24.♕xe3=) 24...g5 25.♖ab1 h6 26.♕g4 ♕b4=) 19...♕xd3 20.♖xd3 f6 21.♘f3 (21.♖b3 b5 22.♗f4 g5 23.exf6 gxf4 24.fxe7 ♗xe7 25.♖f3±) 21...♔d7 22.♗d2 fxe5 23.dxe5 ♘f5 24.♖c1 ♗e7±

16.♘e1 h6 17.a3 ♗e7 18.♕g3 ♗f8

18...g6 19.♖b1 ♕b6 20.h3 (20.♕f3 ♗f8 21.h3 ♗g7 22.♕c3 O-O±) 20...a5 21.b4 ♕b5 22.♕f3 axb4 23.axb4 h5±

19.h4 g6 20.♕h3 ♕b6 21.♖d3 a5! 22.♖c3 ♗g7 23.♕d3 O-O 24.a4 ♘e7 25.♖b3! ♕a7 26.♘f3 h5 27.♘g3

27.♖b5 b6 28.♗d2 ♖fe8 (28...♘f5 29.♘g3 ♘xg3 30.fxg3 ♘b8 31.♖b3 ♖c4 32.♖c3 ♖xc3 33.♕xc3 ♘a6 34.♖c1 ♘b4±) 29.♗g5 ♘f5 30.♘g3 ♘h6 31.♕d2 ♘g4 (31...♔h7+-) 32.♘e2±

27...♖c4 28.♗g5 ♘c6 29.♘e2

29.♗e3= ♘b4 30.♕d2 ♘c2 31.♖c1 ♖fc8

29...♖a8 30.♕d1! ♖b4 31.♖xb4 axb4 32.♕c2 ♘db8 33.b3 ♘d7?

33...b5 34.♘h2 ♔h7 35.♕d1 bxa4 36.♖xa4 ♕b7 37.♖xa8 ♕xa8 38.g4±

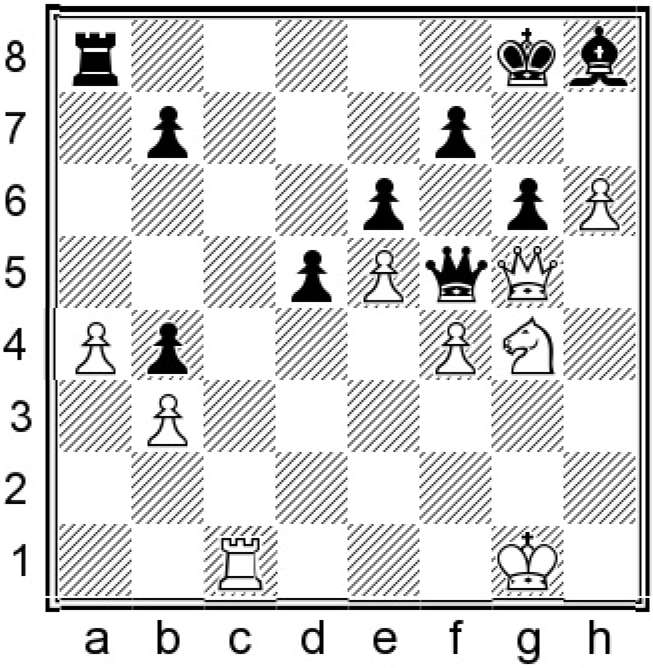
34.♖c1 ♕b6 35.♕d2 ♘f8 36.g4 hxg4 37.♘h2 ♘h7

37...g3 38.♘g4 ♘h7 39.♔f1±

38.♘xg4 ♘xg5 39.♕xg5

39.hxg5?! ♔f8±

39...♘xd4 40.♘xd4 ♕xd4 41.h5 ♕e4 42.h6 ♕f5 43.f4 ♗h8



44.♖c7!

44.h7+? ♔xh7 45.♔f2 ♕e4=

44...♖f8 45.♕xf5

45.h7+? ♔xh7 46.♕xf5 gxf5=

45...gxf5 46.♘f2 ♔h7 47.♖xb7 ♔xh6

47...♖c8 48.♖xf7+ ♔xh6 49.♖e7±

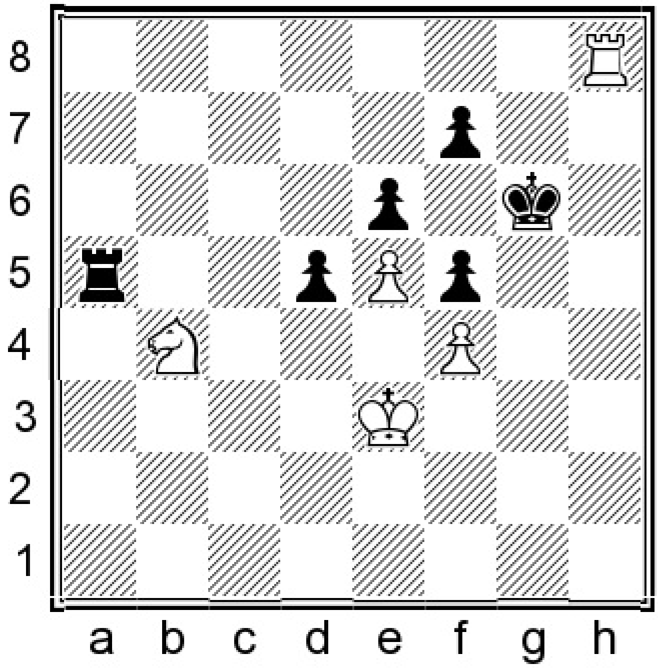
48.♖xb4 ♖a8 49.♘d3 ♗g7 50.♔f2 ♔h5 51.♖b5 ♔g4 52.b4 ♗f8 53.a5 ♖a7 54.♔e3 ♔h5 55.♖b8

55.♖c5 ♗e7 (55...♗xc5+??) 56.♖c2 ♗xb4 57.♘xb4 d4+ 58.♔xd4+-

55...♗xb4 56.♘xb4

56.♖xb4?! ♖xa5 57.♖b7 ♔g6±

56...♖xa5 57.♖h8+ ♔g6



58.♔d4! ♔g7 59.♖h1 ♔g6

⌓59...♔f8 60.♖b1 ♖a4±

60.♖g1+ ♔h6 61.♘d3 ♔h7 62.♖g2 ♔h6 63.♘f2 ♔h5 64.♖g7 ♖a7 65.♔c5! ♖a2 66.♘h3 ♖a4 67.♔d6 1-0

51. B52
Barbosa, Evandro Amorim (2509) - Gauche, Charles (2155)
Brazil (ch) 150/51, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+ ♗d7 4.♗xd7+ ♕xd7 5.O-O e6 6.♕e2 ♘c6 7.♖d1

7.c3 - 56/(204)

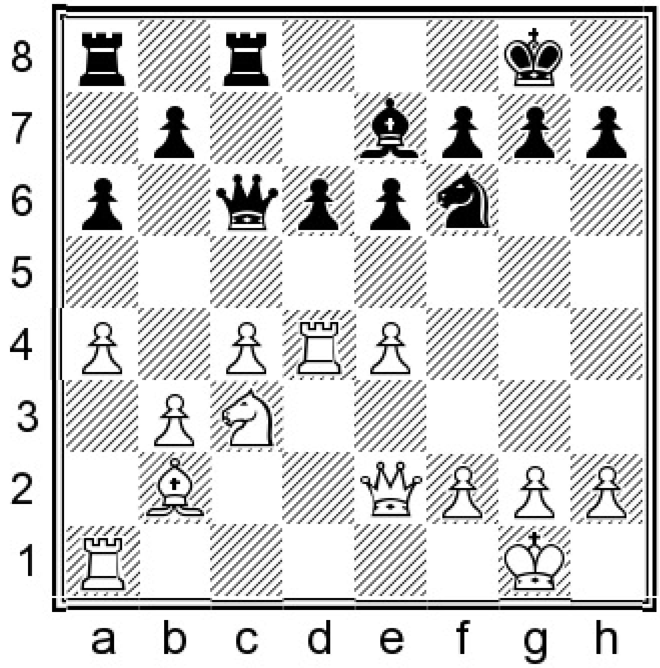
7...♘f6 8.d4 cxd4 9.♘xd4 ♗e7 10.c4 O-O 11.♘c3 ♖fc8

11...a6 12.b3 ♖ac8 13.♗b2 ♖fd8 14.♘c2 ♕c7 15.♘e3 ♕a5=

12.b3 ♘xd4

12...a6

13.♖xd4 ♕c6 14.♗b2 a6 15.a4



15.♖ad1 b5 16.cxb5 axb5 17.♖b4±

15...b6?!N

15...♘d7=

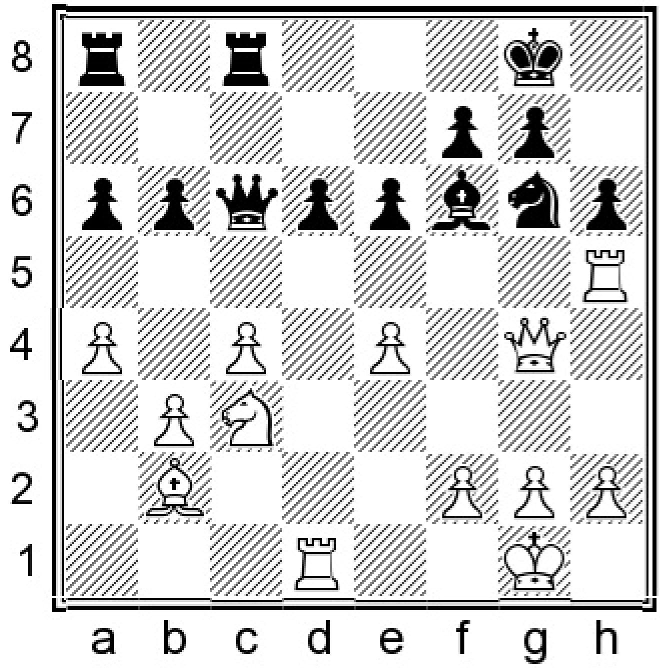
16.♖ad1 ♘d7 17.♖4d3± ♘e5

17...♘c5?! 18.♖h3 ♘xb3? 19.♕h5 h6 20.♘d5 exd5 21.♗xg7+-

18.♖h3 ♘g6 19.♕h5?!

19.♗c1!± (Δ f4-f5) 19...♕c5 20.♔h1 ♗f6 21.f4 ♗xc3 22.♖xc3 b5 23.h4!↑

19...h6 20.♕g4 ♗f6⇄ 21.♖h5?



21...♗e5!-+ 22.g3 b5! 23.h4

23.axb5 axb5 24.cxb5 ♕c5 25.♖c1 ♕b4-+

23...bxc4

23...b4-+

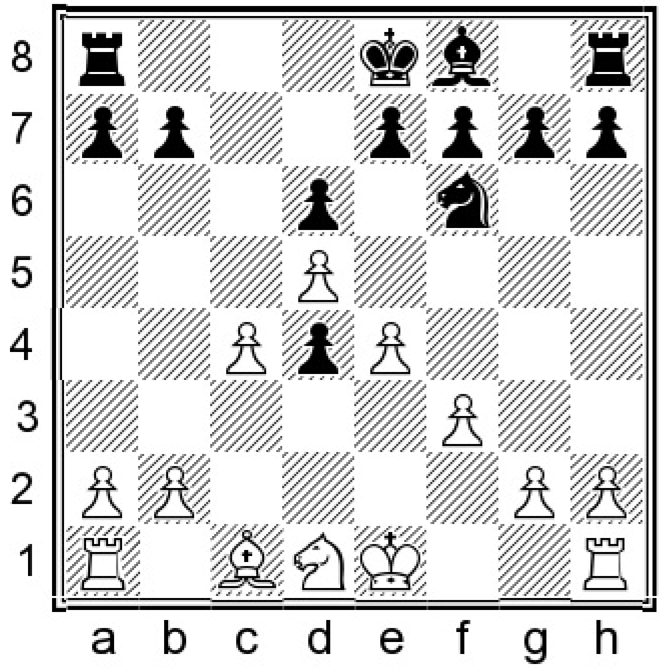
24.b4 ♕b6 25.b5 axb5 26.axb5 ♕c5 27.♖c1 ♕b4 28.♕e2 ♗d4 29.♔g2 ♘e5 30.♖c2 ♕b3 31.b6 ♕xb6 32.♕d2 ♘d3 33.♖b5 ♕c6 34.♖h5 ♗xc3 35.♗xc3 ♕xe4+ 0-1

52. B52
So, Wesley (2778) - Swiercz, Dariusz (2647)
USA (ch) 150/52, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+!? ♗d7 4.♗xd7+ ♕xd7 5.c4 ♘f6 6.♘c3 ♘c6 7.d4 ♕g4

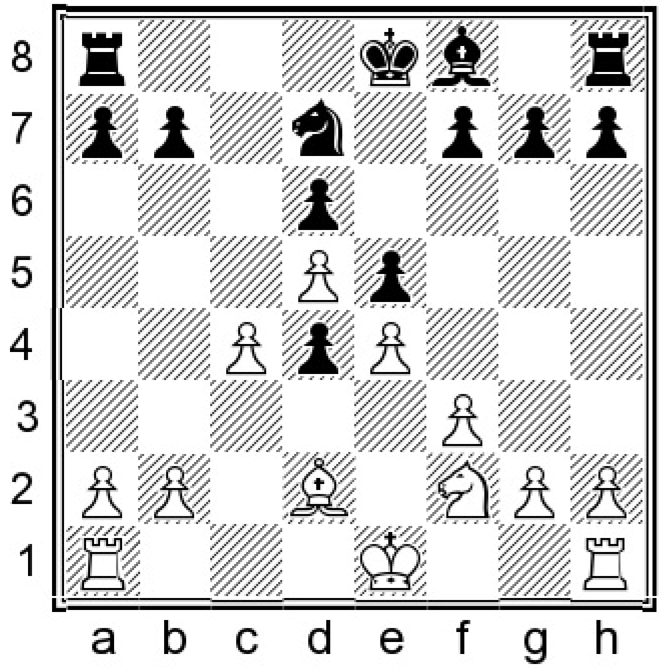
7...cxd4 - 104/42

8.d5 ♘d4 9.♘xd4 ♕xd1+ 10.♘xd1 cxd4 11.f3



11...♖c8?!N

11...♘d7 12.♘f2 e5 13.♗d2



13...a5! (13...♗e7 14.♔e2 f6 15.b4 ♔f7 16.a4 ♖hc8= (16...♖ac8!?)) 14.♘d3 b6 15.♔e2 ♗e7 16.b3 h6 17.a3 ♗g5=

12.b3 e5 13.g4!? ♗e7 14.♔e2 h5?! 15.g5 ♘d7 16.♗d2 O-O 17.♘f2 a6?!

17...f5 18.h4 (18.gxf6 ♗xf6=) 18...b6 19.♘d3 a5 20.a3 ♘c5=

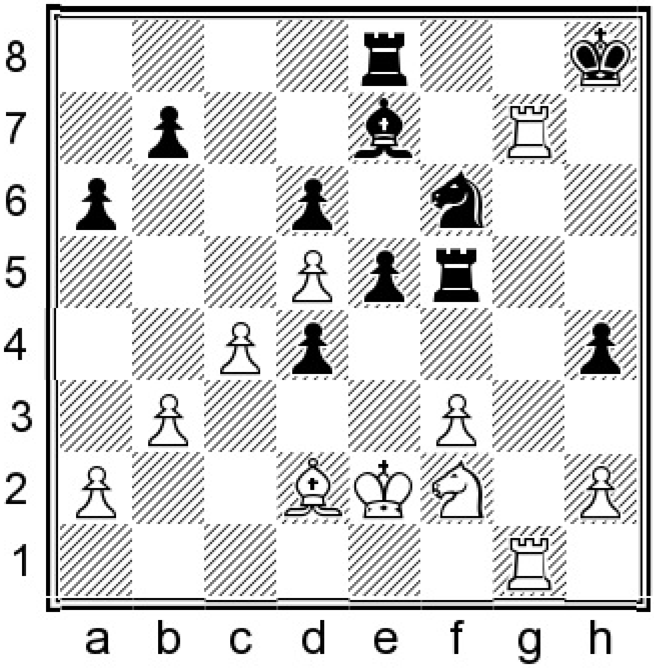
18.♘d3 f5?! 19.gxf6 gxf6

19...♘xf6 20.a4±

20.♖hg1+ ♔h7 21.♖g3 h4?

21...♖g8 22.♖ag1 ♖xg3 23.hxg3 ♖g8 24.♗e1± Δ Rh1

22.♖g4 f5 23.exf5 ♖xf5 24.♖ag1 ♖e8 25.♘f2! ♘f6 26.♖g7+ ♔h8



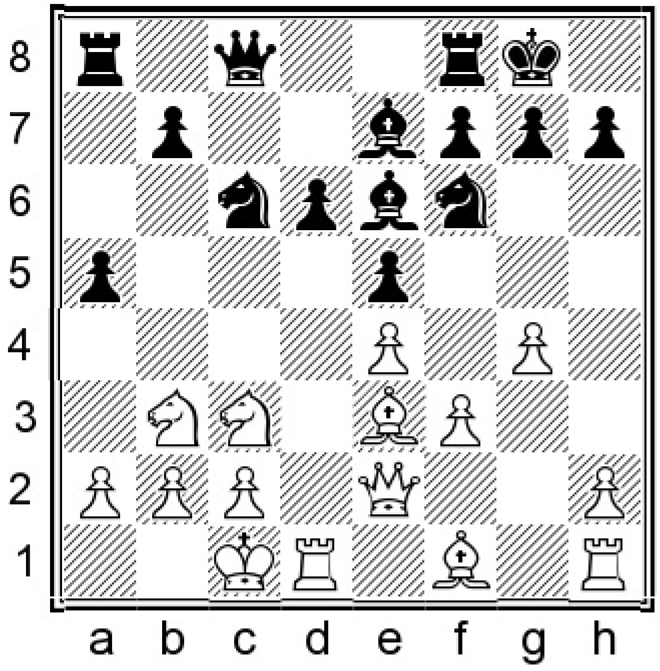
27.♖f7! ♖h5 28.♖g6 ♘g8 29.♘e4 ♖d8 30.♗g5 ♖h7 31.♖xe7 ♖xe7 32.♗xh4 1-0

53. * B56
Durarbayli, Vasif (2629) - Maghsoodloo, Parham (2701)
Riga 150/53, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 ♘c6 6.f3 e5 7.♘b3 ♗e7 8.♗e3 ♗e6 9.♕e2 O-O 10.O-O-O ♕c8

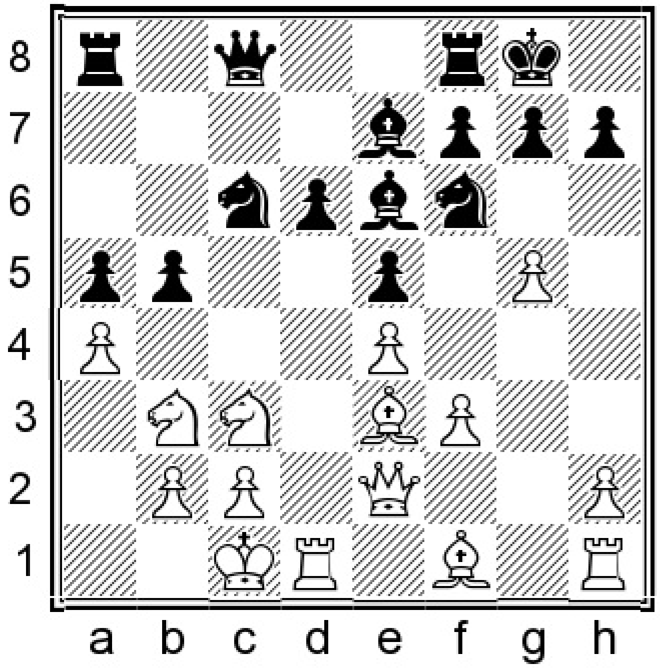
10...♘a5 - 106/211

11.g4 a5



12.g5 - 150/53

12.a4N ♘b4 (12...b5!? 13.♘xb5 (13.g5?



13...♘xe4! 14.fxe4 bxa4 15.♘xa4 ♘b4 16.♘b6 (16.♔b1 ♕c6 17.♘c3 a4 18.♘d5 ♗xd5 19.exd5 ♕c7∓) 16...♕c6 17.♘d5 (17.♘xa8 ♖xa8-+) 17...♗xd5 18.exd5 ♕a4 19.♕b5 ♕a2∓; 13.♕xb5 ♘b4∞) 13...♗xb3 14.cxb3 ♘d4+ 15.♕c4 ♘xf3∞) 13.g5 ♘h5 14.♔b1 b5!? 15.♘xb5 d5 16.exd5 ♗xd5 17.♘c3 Horvath, A (2501)-Shevchenko,K (2633) Hrvatska 150/(53) 2021 (17.♘c3 ♗xb3! 18.cxb3 ♕f5+ 19.♘e4 (19.♔a1 ♘c2+ 20.♔a2 ♘b4+=) 19...♖fd8 20.♖c1 ♖ac8∞; 17.♖xd5 ♘xd5 18.♗d2 ♕e6∞)

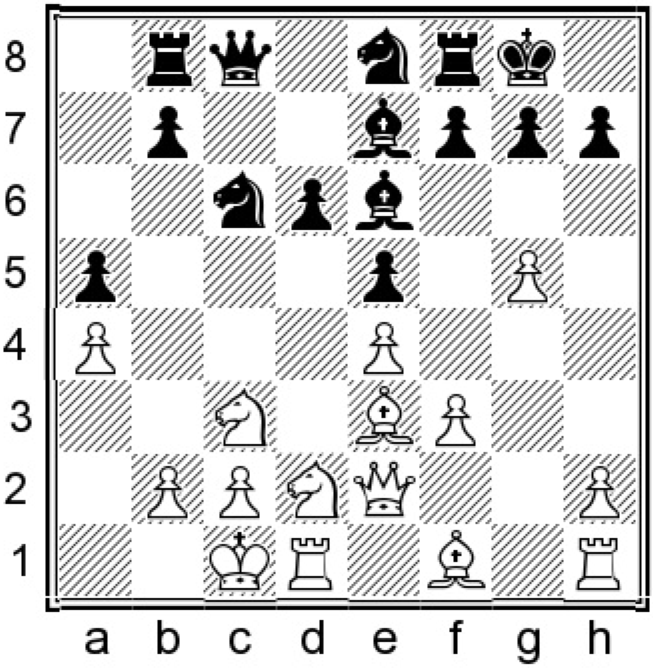
12...♘e8 13.♘d2

13.♘a4?! ♗d8! 14.♔b1 b5! 15.♕xb5 ♘b4 16.♘c3 ♖b8 17.♕e2 ♕c6∓

13...♖b8

13...a4 14.♘c4 ♘d4 15.♕d3 ♗d8 16.♘d5 ♗xd5 17.exd5 b5 18.♘a3 ♘c7∞

14.a4



14...b5N

14...♘c7 15.♘c4 ♘d4 16.♗xd4 exd4 17.♖xd4 ♗xg5+ 18.♔b1=

15.axb5

15.♘xb5 ♘c7 16.♘c4 (16.♘xc7? ♕xc7 17.♔b1 ♖fc8-+; 16.♔b1 d5∓) 16...♘xb5 17.axb5 ♘b4 18.♘b6 ♖xb6! 19.♗xb6 d5↑

15...♘d4 16.♕d3 ♘c7 17.♗xd4 exd4 18.♕xd4 ♗xg5 19.♖g1 ♗h6 20.f4

20.♕xd6 g6

20...♗g4 21.♖e1 ♗d7 22.f5?

22.e5 dxe5 23.♖xe5 g6∞

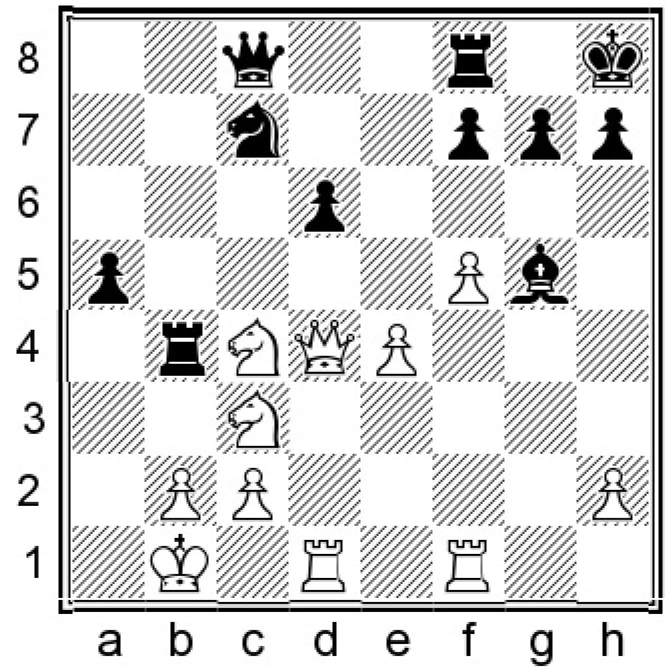
22...♗xb5 23.♔b1 ♔h8?!

23...♗xf1! 24.♖exf1 ♕a6-+

24.♖d1 ♗xf1 25.♖gxf1 ♖b4 26.♘c4

26.♕xd6?? ♖d8-+

26...♗g5



27.♕d3?

27.f6! ♗xf6 28.♖xf6 ♘e6 29.♕f2 ♕xc4 30.♘d5 ♖fb8 31.♘xb4 ♕xb4 32.b3 gxf6 33.♕xf6+ ♔g8 34.♖g1+ ♔f8 35.e5! dxe5 36.♖f1 ♘f4 37.♕h8+ ♔e7 38.♕xe5+ ♘e6 39.♕f6+ ♔d6 40.♕xf7∞

27...♗f6 28.♘a2 ♖b8 29.c3 ♘b5-+ 30.♔a1

30.♘xd6 ♘xd6 31.♕xd6 ♕b7-+

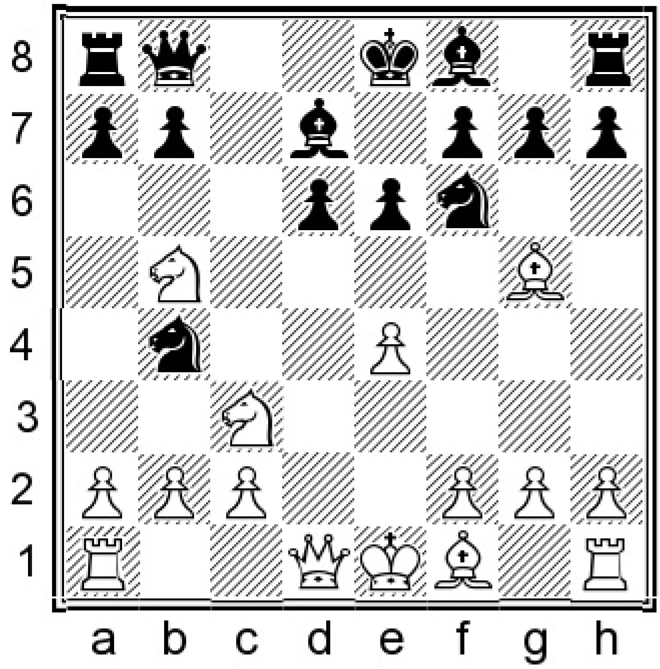
30...a4 31.♘xd6 ♘xd6 32.♕xd6 a3 33.♕d5

33.e5 axb2+ 34.♔b1 ♖d8-+

33...♖e8 34.♖fe1 h6 35.♕xf7 ♖b7 36.♕d5 ♖e5 37.♕d6 axb2+ 38.♔b1 ♖a7 39.♖d5 ♖e8 40.♖b5 ♖xa2 41.♔xa2 ♕c4+ 42.♖b3 b1=Q+ 0-1

54. ** !N B62
Ganguly, Surya Shekhar (2625) - Soumya, Swaminathan (2351)
tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 150/54, 2021

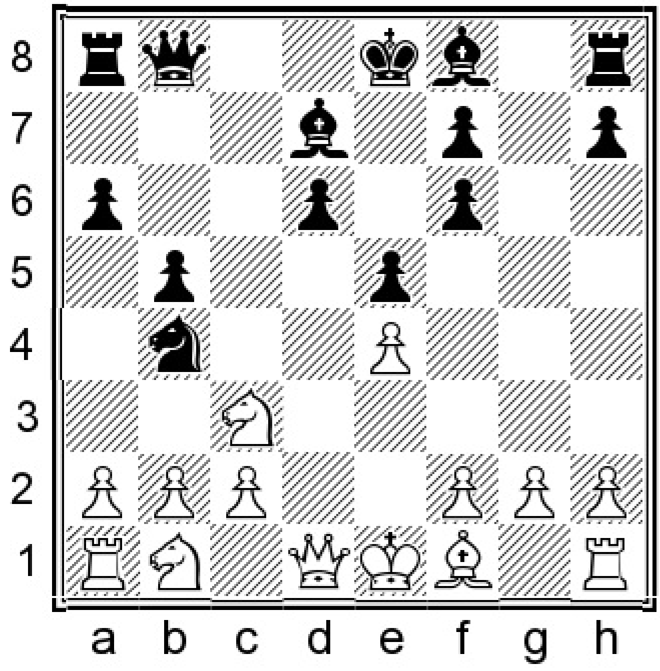
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 d6 6.♗g5 e6 7.♕d3 ♗d7 8.♘db5 ♘b4 9.♕d1 ♕b8



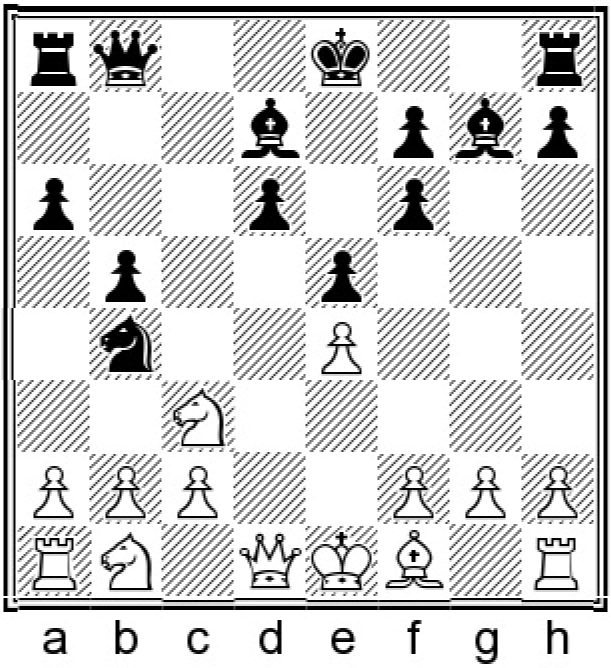
9...a6!? 10.♗xf6 (10.a3 - 147/(52)) 10...gxf6 11.a3 axb5 12.axb4 ♖xa1 13.♕xa1 d5! 14.exd5 ♗xb4⇄

10.♗e2N

10.♗f4 - 150/(54) 10...e5 11.♗g5 a6 12.♗xf6 gxf6 13.♘a3 b5 14.♘ab1



14...♗g7!N



(14...f5 15.a3 ♘c6 16.♗d3± (16.exf5 ♗xf5 17.♗d3 ♗xd3 18.♕xd3 ♗g7 19.O-O O-O=)) 15.a3 - 150/(54) (15.g3N O-O 16.a3 ♘c6 17.♘d5 ♖a7?! Delchev,A (2500)-Shevchenko,K (2633) Struga 150/(54) 2021 (17...♖a7 18.♗d3±; 17...♕d8 18.♗d3 f5 19.exf5 e4! 20.♗xe4 ♖e8 21.f3 ♗xf5 22.♘bc3 ♗h3 23.♘f4 d5! 24.♕xd5 ♗xc3+ 25.bxc3 ♕xd5 26.♘xd5 f5∞)) 15...♘c6 16.♘d5 f5 17.♘bc3 O-O 18.exf5 ♗xf5 19.g4 ♗g6 20.♗g2 ♕a7 21.h4 ♘d4 1/2 (21) Gagliardi, V-Matsukevich,V corr 150/(54) 2020

10...a6 11.♘d4 ♗e7 12.O-O b5 13.♗f3 ♖a7

⌓13...h6 14.♗h4 O-O 15.♖e1 ♕b6 16.a3 ♘c6 17.♘xc6 ♗xc6∓

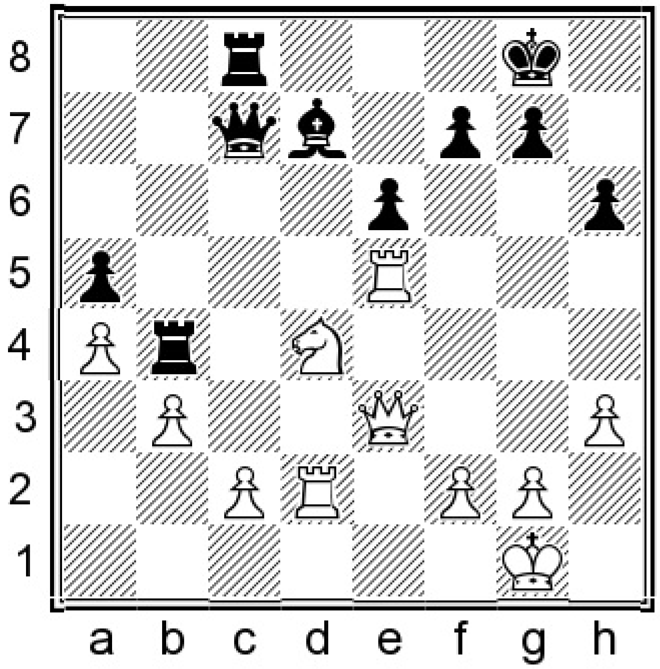
14.♕d2 ♖c7 15.♖fe1 O-O 16.♘cxb5 ♗xb5?!

16...♘xc2 17.♘xc7 ♘xe1 18.♖xe1 ♕xc7 19.♖c1 ♕b8∞

17.♕xb4 d5

⌓17...♗d7 18.♕xb8 ♖xb8 19.♗d1 ♗d8 20.♘b3 a5!? 21.e5! (21.♘xa5 ♖c5 22.♗xf6 ♗xa5 23.♗c3 ♖xc3 24.bxc3 ♗xc3 25.♗e2 ♗xe1 26.♖xe1 ♖b2=) 21...dxe5 22.♘xa5 h6 23.♗c1 ♘d5=∞

18.♕b3 ♘xe4 19.♗xe7 ♖xe7 20.♗xe4 dxe4 21.♖xe4± ♖b7 22.♕e3 ♗d7 23.b3 a5 24.a4 h6 25.♖e1 ♖c8 26.h3 ♕d6 27.♖e2 ♖b4 28.♖d2 ♕c7 29.♖e5?



29.f4+-

29...♗xa4! 30.g4

30.♘xe6! fxe6 31.bxa4 ♖xa4 32.♕e1 ♔h8 33.♖xe6±

30...♗e8 31.g5 hxg5 32.♖xg5 a4 33.bxa4 ♖xa4∓ 34.f4 ♕c3 35.♖d3 ♖a1+ 36.♔f2 ♕c7 37.♕e4?

37.f5! f6 38.♖xg7+ ♕xg7 39.♕xe6+ ♔h8 40.♕xc8 ♕g1+ 41.♔f3 ♕h1+ 42.♔e3 ♕g1+ 43.♔f3=

37...♖c1 38.♖dg3 g6 39.h4 ♕a7 40.♔g2 ♖1xc2+ 41.♔h3 ♖2c4 42.♖d3 ♖d8 43.♕e5 ♖cxd4-+ 44.♖dg3 ♖d3 45.h5 ♕g1 46.♕e4 ♕f1+ 47.♔h4 ♖3d4 48.♖xg6+ fxg6 49.♖xg6+ ♔f8 50.♖f6+ ♗f7??

50...♔g7 51.♖g6+ ♔h7 52.♖h6+ ♔xh6 53.♕xe6+ ♔g7 54.♕e5+ ♔f7 55.♕f5+ ♔e7 56.♕e5+ ♔d7 57.♕xd4+ ♔c8 58.♕c5+ ♔b7 59.♕e7+ ♗d7-+

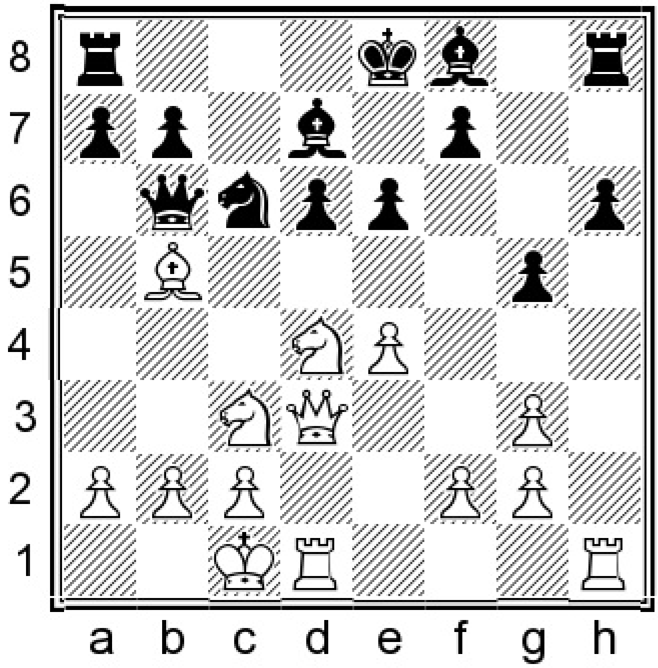
51.♖xf7+ ♔xf7 52.♕g6+ ♔e7 53.♕g7+ ♔e8 54.♕h8+ ♔f7 55.♕h7+ ♔f8 56.♕h8+ ♔e7 57.♕g7+ ♔d6 58.♕xd4+ ♔c7 59.♕c5+ ♔d7 60.♕d4+ ♔c8 61.♕c5+ ♔b7 62.♕e7+ ♔c8 63.♕c5+ ♔b7 64.♕e7+ ♔c8 65.♕c5+ 1/2-1/2

55. B62
Warmerdam, Max (2608) - Guseinov, Gadir (2665)
Terme Catez 150/55, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 ♘c6 6.♗g5 e6 7.♗b5 ♗d7 8.♕d3 h6 9.♗h4 g5

9...♗e7 - 149/58

10.♗g3 ♘h5 11.O-O-O ♘xg3 12.hxg3 ♕b6


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

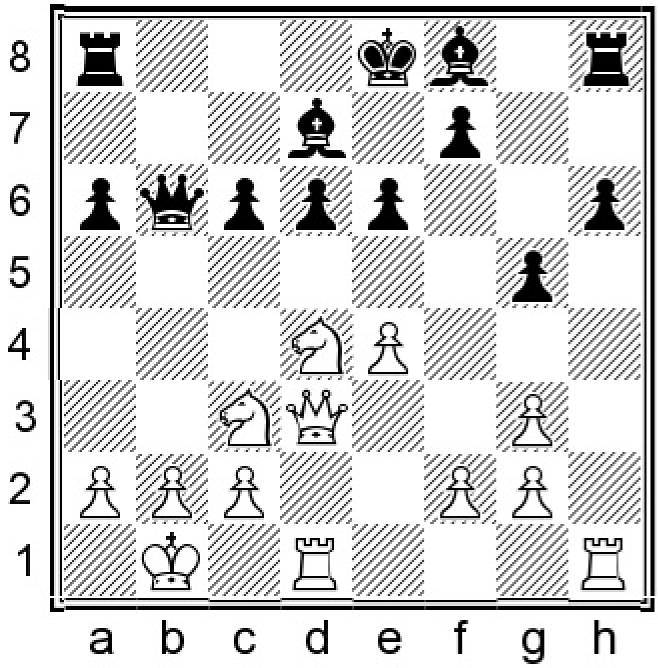
13.♔b1N

13.♗xc6! bxc6 14.f4 gxf4 15.gxf4 O-O-O! 16.♔b1 ♔b8 17.♘b3±

13...a6?!

13...♘xd4 14.♕xd4 (14.♗xd7+ ♔xd7 15.♕xd4 ♕xd4 16.♖xd4 ♗g7 17.♖d3 a6=) 14...♕xd4 15.♖xd4 a6 16.♗xd7+ ♔xd7 17.♘a4 ♖b8=

14.♗xc6 bxc6


8
7
6
5
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3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

15.♘f3?!

15.f4! ♖b8 (15...c5 16.♘f3 ♖b8 17.b3±) 16.♘b3 gxf4 17.gxf4 c5 18.f5 ♗g7 19.♖h5±

15...♗e7?

15...c5! 16.e5 (16.♘e5 ♗b5 17.♘xb5 axb5 18.♘g4 ♕a5∞; 16.♘xg5 ♖b8 17.b3 ♗g7 18.♘f3 c4!∞) 16...d5 17.♘e4 O-O-O 18.♘f6 ♗e7∞

16.♘e5!± dxe5

16...♕b7 17.♘c4 d5 18.♘e5 ♗f6 19.f4±

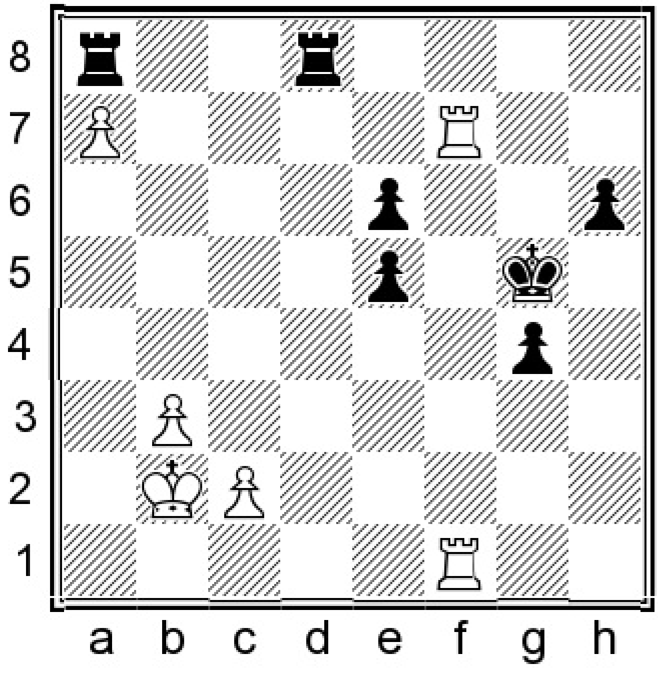
17.♕xd7+ ♔f8 18.♘a4 ♕b5 19.b3 ♖b8 20.♘b2 ♗a3 21.♕d3

21.f4!

21...♗xb2 22.♔xb2 ♕xd3 23.♖xd3 ♔e7 24.g4 ♖bd8 25.♖c3?

25.♖xd8 ♖xd8 26.♔c3 ♖h8 27.a4 ♔d6 28.♔b4+-

25...♖d2! 26.♖xc6 ♖xf2 27.g3 a5 28.a4 ♔f6 29.♖c5 ♖f3 30.♖xa5 ♖xg3 31.♖b5 ♖xg4 32.a5 ♖xe4 33.a6 ♖a8 34.♖a1 ♖d4 35.♖b7 g4 36.a7 ♖dd8 37.♖f1+ ♔g5 38.♖bxf7



38...h5?

38...♖g8! 39.b4 g3 40.b5 ♔g4 41.b6 g2 42.♖g1 (42.♖a1 h5 43.c4 h4 44.c5 h3 45.♖h7 ♔g3 46.♖a3+ ♔g4 47.♖a1=) 42...♔g3 43.♖f6 (43.c4 h5 44.c5 h4 45.c6 h3 46.b7 ♖xa7 47.♖g7+ ♖xg7 48.b8=Q ♔h2 49.♖d1 g1=Q 50.♕xe5+ ♕g3 51.♖d2+ ♔h1 52.♖d1+=) 43...♖g7 44.♖xh6 ♖b7 45.♖xe6 ♖axa7 46.♖g6+ ♔f3 47.♖1xg2 ♖xb6+ 48.♖xb6 ♔xg2=

39.b4 h4

39...♖g8 40.b5 h4 41.b6 g3 42.♖h7! e4 43.♖a1+-

40.♖g7+ ♔h5 41.♖e1 ♖d4 42.c3 ♖d2+ 43.♔b3 h3

43...g3 44.♖xe5+ ♔h6 45.♖g4 ♖xa7 46.♖xh4+ ♔g6 47.♖g4+ ♔f6 48.♖eg5+-

44.♖xe5+ ♔h4 45.♖xe6?

45.♖e4 ♖g2 (45...♔h5 46.♖gxg4 ♖xa7 47.♖h4+ ♔g5 48.♖xh3+-; 45...h2 46.♖gxg4+ ♔h3 47.♖h4+ ♔g2 48.♖eg4+ ♔f3 49.♖g7+-) 46.b5 h2 47.♖h7+ ♔g3 48.b6 ♖g1 49.♖e3+ ♔f4 50.♖xh2! ♔xe3 51.b7+-

45...h2 46.♖h6+

46.b5 ♔g3 47.♖e1 ♔f2 48.♖b1 (48.♖a1 g3 49.♖f7+ ♔g2 50.b6 h1=Q 51.♖xh1 ♔xh1 52.b7 ♖xa7 53.♖f1+ ♔g2 54.b8=Q ♔xf1 55.♕xa7 g2=) 48...g3 49.b6 g2 50.b7 h1=Q 51.♖f7+ ♔e2 52.♖e7+ ♔f2 53.♖f7+=

46...♔g3 47.b5

47.♖gh7 ♖d1 48.♖xh2 (48.b5 ♖b1+ 49.♔c4 ♖c8+ 50.♔d3 ♖xb5 51.♖xh2 ♖d5+ 52.♔c2 ♖dc5=) 48...♖xa7 49.♖xa7 ♔xh2 50.♖h7+ ♔g2 51.b5 g3 52.c4 ♖b1+ 53.♔a4 ♔f3 54.c5 g2 55.♖g7 g1=Q 56.♖xg1 ♖xg1 57.b6 ♖b1=

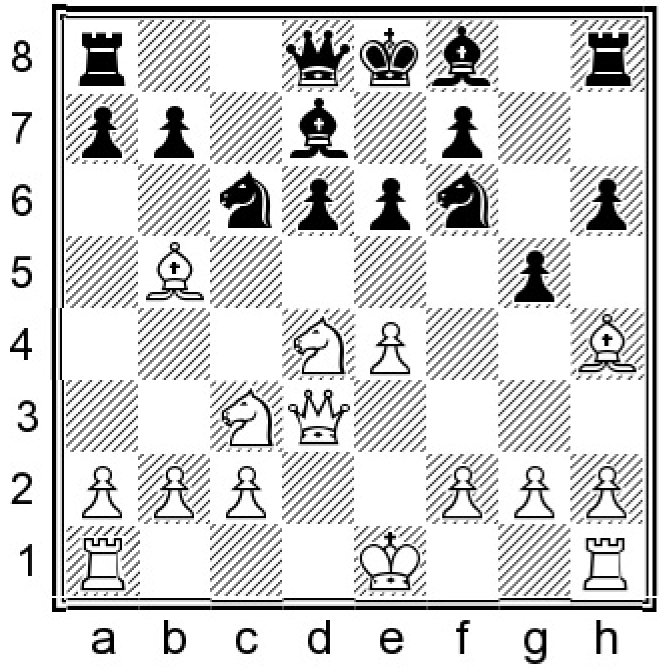
47...♖d6! 48.♖hh7

48.♖h5 ♖d5 49.♖xh2 ♔xh2 50.c4 ♖d1 51.c5 g3 52.b6 ♖b1+ 53.♔c4 g2 54.♔d5 g1=Q 55.♖xg1 ♔xg1 56.♔c6 ♔f2 57.♔b7 ♖h8 58.a8=Q ♖xa8 59.♔xa8 ♖b5=

48...♖d1 49.♔c4 h1=Q 50.♖xh1 ♖xh1 51.b6 ♖a1 52.♔c5 ♔f3 53.c4 g3 54.b7 ♖1xa7 55.bxa8=Q+ ♖xa8 56.♔b6 1/2-1/2

56. !N B62
Perunovic, Milos (2566) - Breder, Dennis (2463)
Struga 150/56, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 d6 6.♗g5 e6 7.♗b5 ♗d7 8.♕d3 h6 9.♗h4 g5



9...♗e7 - 149/58

10.♗xc6!N

10.♗g3 ♘e5 11.♕e2 a6 12.♗xd7+ ♘fxd7 13.h4 ♖g8∞

10...bxc6 11.♗g3 ♘h5 12.O-O-O ♖g8!? 13.♘b3 e5 14.♘d2 ♕c7 15.♘c4 ♖g6 16.♖d2 ♖d8 17.♖hd1 ♗e7 18.♘e3 g4

18...♘f4 19.♕c4 ♕b6∞

19.♕c4

19.♔b1±

19...♕b6 20.♔b1 ♗e6 21.♕a4 ♖b8?

21...♗g5 22.♘cd5 (22.♖d3 ♘xg3 23.hxg3 ♔f8∞) 22...♕b7 23.b3 ♘xg3 24.hxg3 a5! (24...♔f8 25.♘b4 ♗d7 26.♕a3±) 25.♘c4! ♗xd2 26.♖xd2∞

22.b3 ♕c5

22...♘xg3 23.hxg3 ♔f8 24.♘f5 ♖d8 25.♘xe7 ♔xe7 26.♕a3 ♕c7 27.♘a4±

23.♘cd5 ♗d8 24.♘c4

24.♘f5! ♘xg3 25.hxg3 ♗d7 (25...♔f8 26.♘de3 ♗c7 27.f3±) 26.♘de3 d5 27.exd5 cxd5 28.♕xd7+ ♔xd7 29.♖xd5+ ♕xd5 30.♖xd5+ ♔c7 31.♖xe5±

24...♔f8?

24...♘xg3 25.hxg3 (25.♘xd6+ ♔f8 26.hxg3 ♗a5! 27.♘e3 ♗xd2 28.♖xd2 a5∞) 25...♔f8 26.♘de3 ♗c7

27.♘b2±

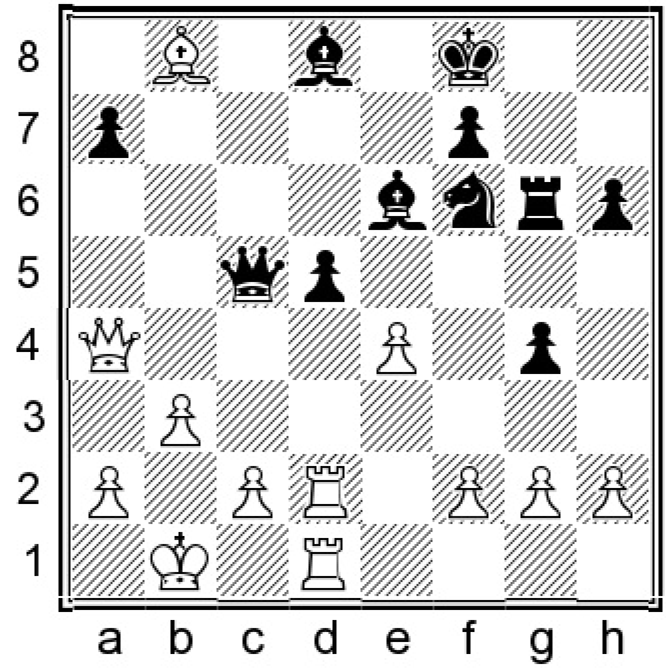
25.♘xe5! dxe5

25...cxd5 26.♘xg6+ fxg6 27.♖xd5 ♗xd5 28.♖xd5 ♕b6 29.♗xd6+ ♗e7 30.♗xb8 ♕xb8+-; 25...♘xg3 26.♘xg6+ fxg6 27.♘f4!+-

26.♗xe5 cxd5

⌓26...♖c8 27.♘f4 ♗e7 (27...♘xf4 28.♖xd8+ ♖xd8 29.♖xd8+ ♔e7 30.♗d6+ ♕xd6 31.♖xd6 ♔xd6 32.♕d4++-) 28.♘xg6+ fxg6 29.♗d6 ♗xd6 30.♖xd6+-

27.♗xb8 ♘f6



28.♗xa7

28.exd5! ♘xd5 29.♖xd5! ♗xd5 30.♕d7+-

28...♕a5 29.exd5 ♕xa4 30.bxa4 ♗f5 31.♖d4 ♘e4

31...♗e4 32.♗c5+ ♔g7 33.♗b4 ♗xg2 34.a5+-

32.♖e1 ♗b6 33.♗xb6 ♖xb6+ 34.♔c1 ♘d6 35.♖e3 ♖b8 36.♖c3 ♗d7 37.a3 ♖a8 38.♖b4 ♔e7 39.♖c5 f5 40.f3 h5 41.a5 h4 42.h3 ♘e8 43.♖b6 ♘f6 44.hxg4 fxg4 45.fxg4 ♘e4 46.♖c7 ♖xa5

46...♔d8 47.♖c4+-

47.♖e6+ ♔d8 48.♖xd7+ ♔xd7 49.♖xe4 ♖xd5

49...♖xa3 50.♔b2 ♖g3 51.♖e6 ♖xg4 52.♔b3 ♖xg2 53.♖h6 h3 54.c4! (54.♖xh3? ♔d6 55.c4 ♔c5=) 54...h2 55.♔b4+-

50.c3 ♔c6 51.♖c4+ ♔b5 52.♖d4 ♖e5 53.♔d2 ♔c5 54.a4 ♖e6 55.g5 ♖g6 56.♖g4 ♔d5 57.♖xh4 ♖xg5

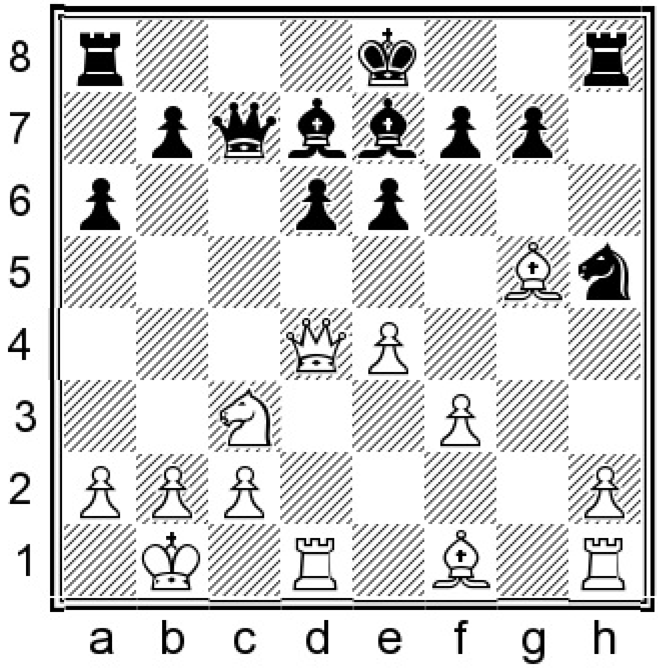
58.♖d4+ 1-0

57. * B67
Alekseenko, Kirill (2693) - Santos Latasa, Jaime (2627)
Struga 150/57, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 ♘c6 6.♗g5 e6 7.♕d2 a6 8.O-O-O ♗d7 9.f3 ♘xd4 10.♕xd4 ♗e7 11.♔b1 ♕c7 12.g4

12.h4 - 145/55

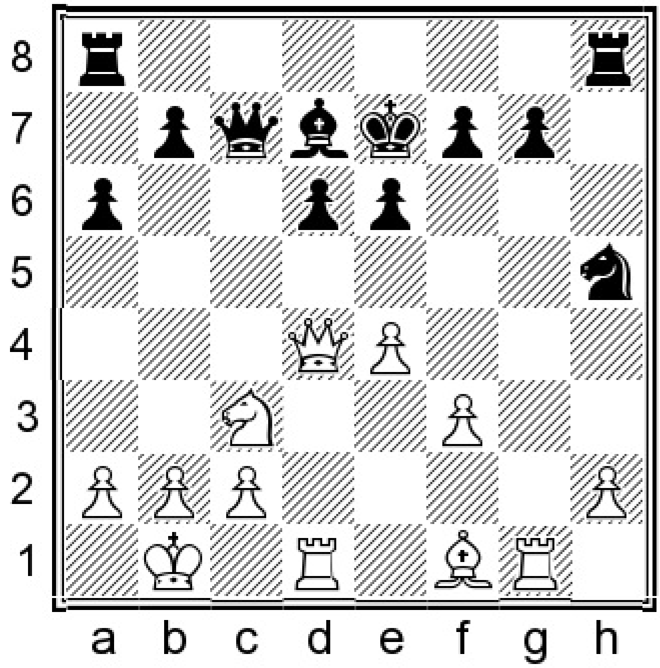
12...h5 13.gxh5 ♘xh5



14.♗xe7N

14.♖g1; 14.h4

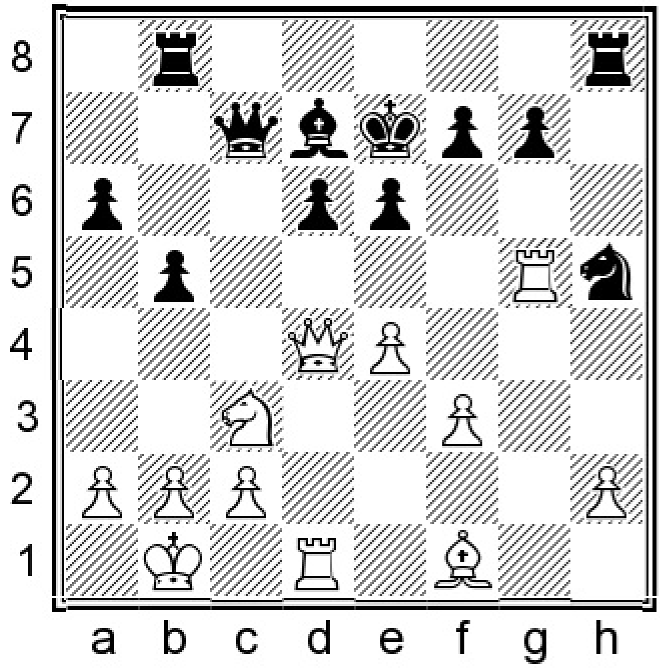
14...♔xe7 15.♖g1



15...b5?!N

15...g6 - 150/(57) 16.♕d2 (16.e5!? dxe5 17.♕b4+ ♔e8 18.♘e4 ♗c6 19.♕c5 b6 20.♘d6+ ♔f8 21.♕xe5 ♖h7∞) 16...♘f6 17.f4 ♖h5 18.♖g5 ♖ah8∞ Giri,A (2776)-Vachier Lagrave,M (2758) chess24.com (Int.-m1/2-rapid) 150/(57) 2021

16.♖g5 ♖ab8??



16...f6 17.♖d5! ♕a7 18.♖xd6 ♕xd4 19.♖1xd4 ♖a7 20.♘e2!±

17.e5!

17.♖d5! ♖b6 18.e5+-

17...dxe5

17...d5 18.♕h4+-

18.♕b4+ ♔e8

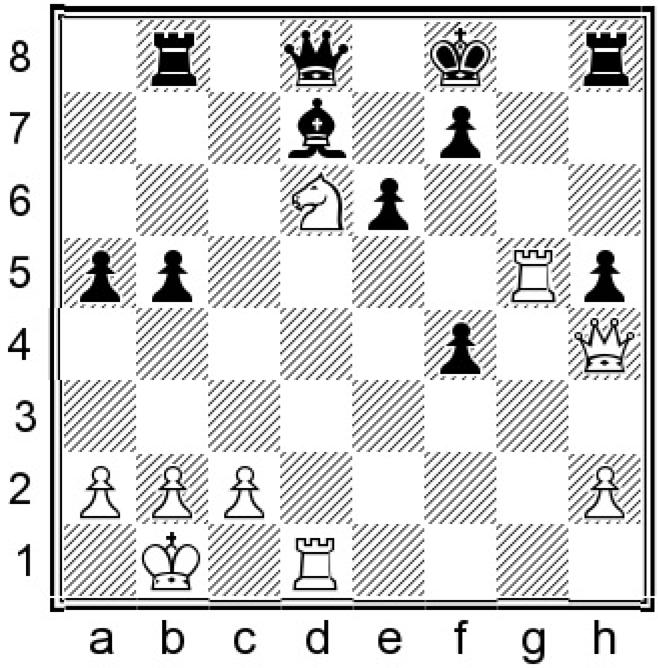
18...♔d8 19.♖xh5+-

19.♘e4 a5 20.♘d6+ ♔f8 21.♕h4 ♕d8

21...g6 22.♖xe5+-

22.f4 ♔g8

22...exf4 23.♗e2 e5 (23...g6 24.♗xh5 gxh5



25.♘xf7! ♔xf7 26.♕xf4+ ♔e8 27.♖g7+-) 24.♘xf7! ♔xf7 25.♗xh5+ ♔g8 26.♖dg1+-; 22...♖h6 23.fxe5+-

23.♗e2 ♗e8

23...♘xf4 24.♕xh8+ ♔xh8 25.♘xf7+ ♔g8 26.♘xd8 ♖xd8 27.♗xb5+-

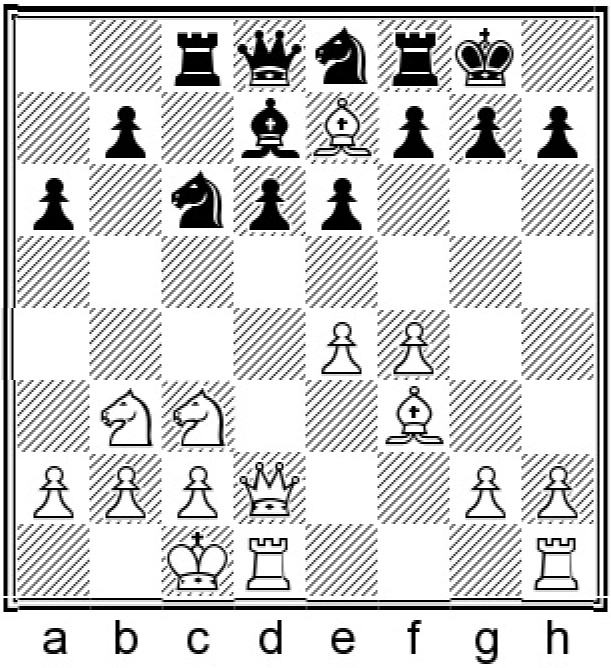
24.♘xe8 ♕xe8 25.♖xh5 ♖xh5 26.♗xh5 1-0

58. B68
Kovalev, Vladislav (2634) - Maghsoodloo, Parham (2701)
Riga 150/58, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♘c3 d6 4.d4 cxd4 5.♘xd4 ♘f6 6.♗g5 e6 7.♕d2 a6 8.O-O-O ♗d7 9.f4 ♗e7 10.♗e2 ♖c8

⌓10...h6 11.♗h4 b5∞; 10...O-O - 34/258

11.♗f3 O-O 12.♘b3!± ♘e8 13.♗xe7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a
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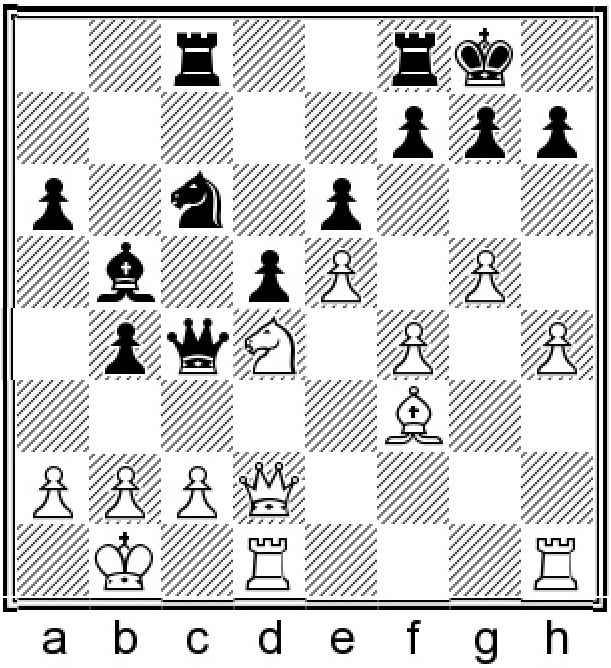
c
d
e
f
g
h

13...♘xe7N

13...♕xe7 14.♖he1±

14.e5 d5 15.g4 b5 16.♘d4 ♕c7 17.g5 b4 18.♘ce2 ♕c4 19.♔b1 ♘c7 20.h4 ♘b5 21.♘xb5 ♗xb5 22.♘d4 ♘c6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a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

23.♘xc6

23.♘b3! a5 24.♖h2 ♘a7 (24...a4? 25.♗e2 ♕e4 26.♘c5 ♕d4 27.♕xd4 ♘xd4 28.♖xd4 ♖xc5 29.♖xb4 ♗xe2 30.♖xe2±) 25.♘xa5 ♕c7 26.♘b3±

23...♖xc6 24.f5 a5 25.♖h2

25.f6 a4! 26.g6 fxg6 27.h5 b3! 28.cxb3 axb3 29.hxg6 hxg6 30.fxg7 ♖f4! 31.axb3 ♕xb3↑

25...a4 26.♕e3 b3

⌓26...a3 27.♖d4 ♕c5 28.b3 ♕b6↑

27.axb3 axb3 28.♕xb3 ♕c5 29.♕a3 ♕b6

29...♕c4 30.♕b3 ♕c5=

30.f6?

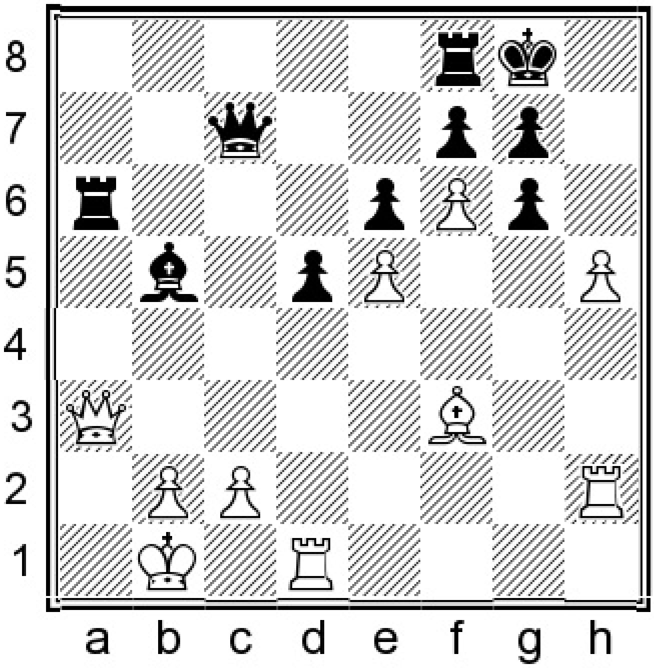
30.g6 ♖cc8! (30...hxg6? 31.h5! gxf5 32.h6+-) 31.♕d6 ♕a7 32.gxf7+ ♖xf7 33.♗h5 ♖ff8 34.fxe6 ♖a8 35.♕a3 ♕b6 36.♕d6 ♕a7 37.♕a3=

30...♕c7?

30...♖c7! 31.fxg7 (31.h5 ♖a7 32.♕c3 ♖fa8 33.b3 ♖a1+ 34.♕xa1 ♖xa1+ 35.♔xa1 ♕e3-+) 31...♔xg7 32.h5 (32.♕d6 ♗c6 33.♗xd5 ♖b7 34.b3 (34.♗b3 ♖d7-+) 34...♖d8-+) 32...♖a7 33.♕c3 ♖fa8 34.b3 ♖a1+ (34...♖a2-+) 35.♕xa1 ♖xa1+ 36.♔xa1 ♕e3-+

31.fxg7?

31.g6! hxg6 (31...fxg6? 32.♖xd5! exd5 (32...♗c4 33.♖a5+-) 33.♗xd5+ ♖f7 34.e6+-) 32.h5 ♖a6



(32...♕xe5? 33.♖dh1+-) 33.h6!! gxh6 34.♕e3 (34.♖xh6? ♖xa3 35.♖dh1 ♕xc2+! 36.♔xc2 ♖c8+ 37.♔d2 ♖d3+ 38.♔e1 ♖c1+ 39.♔f2 ♖xh1 40.♖xh1 ♖b3∓) 34...♕a5 (34...♖fa8 35.c3 ♖a1+ 36.♔c2

♗a4+ 37.♔d2 d4 38.♕xh6 ♖xd1+ 39.♗xd1 dxc3+ 40.♔e1 ♕xe5+ 41.♗e2 ♕xf6 42.♕h7+ ♔f8 43.♕h8+ ♔e7 44.♕xa8 ♕d4=) 35.c3 ♕a1+ 36.♔c2 ♗a4+ 37.♔d3 ♗b5+ (37...♗xd1? 38.♕xh6 ♕b1+ 39.♔e3 ♕c1+ 40.♖d2 d4+ 41.♔f2+-) 38.♔c2=

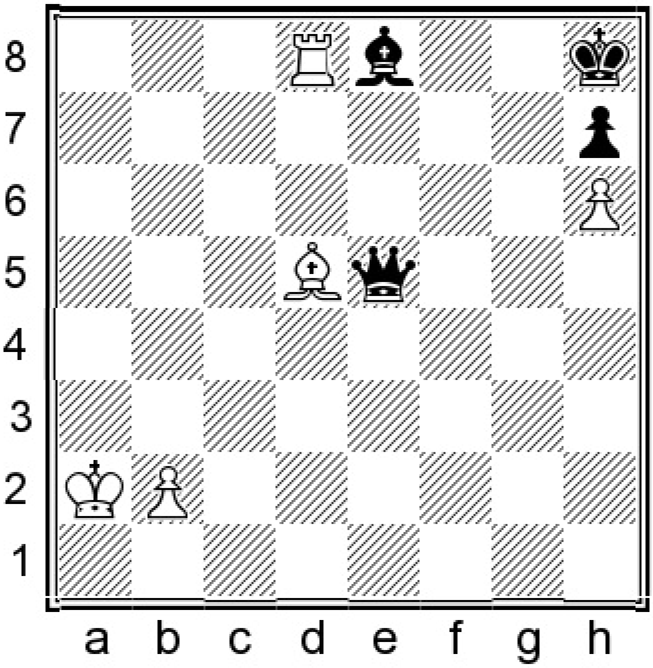
31...♖c8 32.♗h5 ♖xc2 33.♖xc2

33.♕f8+ ♖xf8 34.gxf8=Q+ ♔xf8 35.♖xc2 ♕xe5-+

33...♕xc2+ 34.♔a1 ♗c6 35.♖f1

35.♗xf7+ ♔xg7!-+

35...♖a8 36.♕xa8+ ♗xa8 37.♗xf7+ ♔xg7 38.♗xe6 ♕c5 39.♖f7+ ♔h8 40.♖d7 ♕b6 41.♖d6 ♗c6 42.h5 ♕a7+ 43.♔b1 ♗e8 44.♗xd5 ♕g1+ 45.♔a2 ♕xg5 46.h6 ♕xe5 47.♖d8



47...♕xd5+! 48.♖xd5 ♗f7 0-1

59. * !N B69
Mastrovasilis, Dimitrios (2615) - Maghsoodloo, Parham (2695)
Sharjah 150/59, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 d6 6.♗g5 e6 7.♕d2 a6 8.O-O-O ♗d7 9.f4 ♗e7 10.♘f3 b5 11.♗xf6 gxf6 12.♔b1 b4!?

12...♕b6

13.♘e2 ♕b6?!

13...h5! 14.f5 e5 15.♘c1 ♕b6 16.♗c4 a5 (16...♖c8 17.♗d5 ♘a7! 18.♕d3± (18.♘b3?! a5∓)) 17.♕d5 ♖h7 18.g4 hxg4 19.♖hg1 ♖c8 20.♖xg4 ♗f8 21.h4∞

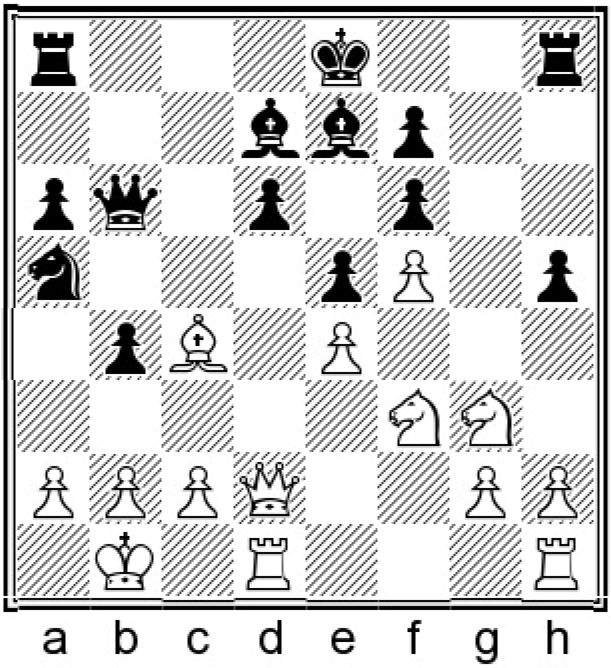
14.f5 e5

14...a5 - 21/377

15.♘g3

15.♕h6! ♘a7 (15...♘a5 16.♘g3 O-O-O 17.♘h5 ♗b5 18.♗xb5 axb5 19.♖d5±; 15...a5 16.♘g3 a4 17.♘h5 b3 18.cxb3 axb3 19.a3± Perunovic,Milos) 16.♘g3 ♗b5 (16...♘b5 17.♗c4 O-O-O 18.♗xf7± Perunovic,Milos) 17.♘h5 O-O-O 18.♘xf6 d5 19.♗xb5 ♘xb5 20.♘g8! ♕xh6 21.♘xh6 dxe4 22.♘xe5 ♖xd1+ 23.♖xd1 f6 24.♘c4± Akshat,Khamparia

15...h5 16.♗c4 ♘a5!



16...♕c5; 16...♖c8

17.♕d5N

17.♗d5 - 150/(59) 17...♖c8 18.h4 (18.♘f1 ♘c4 19.♕d3 ♗b5 20.♕b3 ♕c5∞ Perunovic,Milos) 18...♘c4 19.♗xc4 ♖xc4 20.♖he1 a5↑ Asadli, V (2574) -Bok,B (2624) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(59) 2021

17.♗d3 ♗f8 (17...♘b7∞) 18.h4 ♔e7 19.♕e2 ♘c6= Akshat,Khamparia

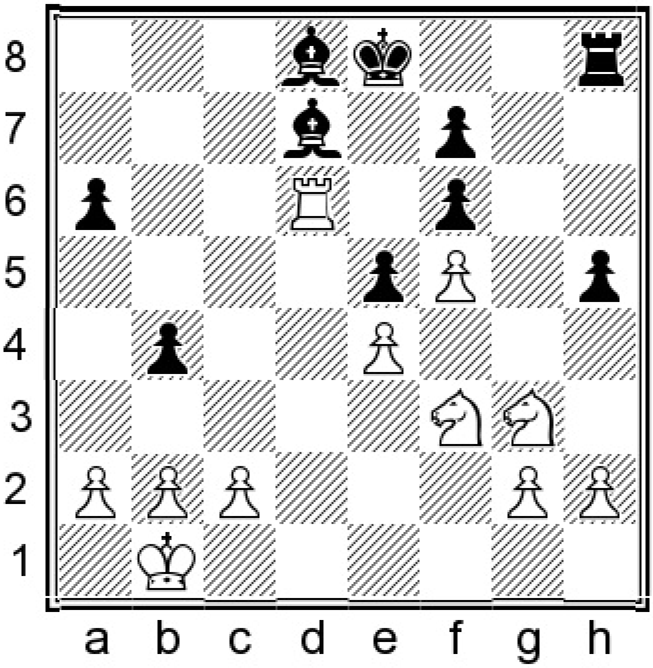
17...♘xc4! 18.♕xa8+

18.♕xc4? a5 19.♘d2 ♗b5 20.♕d5 ♖c8∓

18...♗d8 19.♕d5 ♘e3 20.♕xd6 ♘xd1 21.♖xd1

21.♕xd1! h4 22.♘e2 a5 (RR22...♗c6 23.♕d3 (23.♘d2 ♕f2 24.♘c1 ♕xg2 25.♘d3 ♖g8↑) 23...♔e7 24.♘d2 ♗b5 25.♕f3 ♕a7↑ Perunovic, Milos) 23.♘c1 ♗e7 24.♘d3 a4∞

21...♕xd6 22.♖xd6



22...♗b5! 23.♖d1 h4 24.♘f1 ♗b6 25.♘1d2 ♗f2 26.b3

26.♖c1 ♖g8 27.g3 hxg3 28.hxg3 ♖xg3 29.c4 ♗c6∓ Perunovic, Milos

26...♖g8 27.♘c4

27.g3 hxg3 28.hxg3 ♖xg3∓ Perunovic,Milos

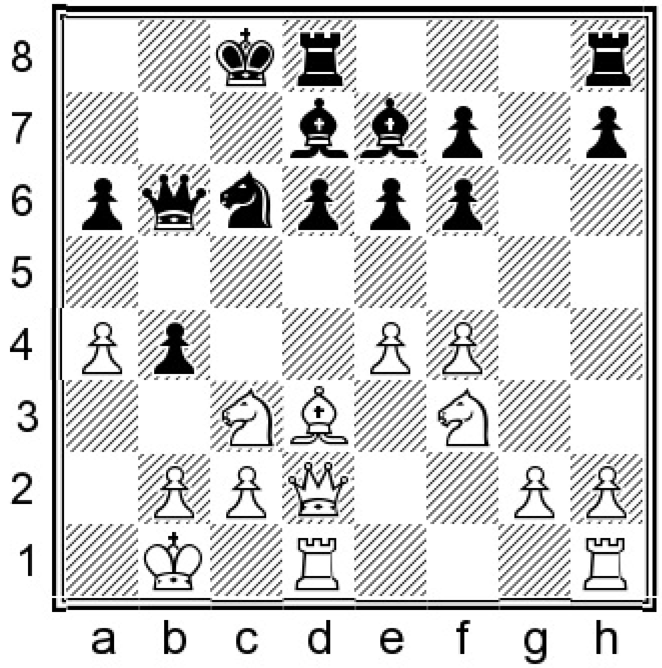
27...♖xg2 28.♖d2 h3 29.♔b2 ♔e7 30.♖d3 ♗a7 31.a4 bxa3+ 32.♔xa3 ♖xc2 33.♔b4 ♖e2 0-1

60. B69
Shirov, Alexei (2659) - Adly, Ahmed (2602)
Riga 150/60, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 ♘c6 6.♗g5 e6 7.♕d2 a6 8.O-O-O ♗d7 9.f4 ♗e7 10.♘f3 b5 11.♗xf6 gxf6 12.♗d3 ♕b6 13.♔b1 O-O-O 14.a4

14.♖he1 - 140/71

14...b4



15.♘d5!?N

15.♘e2

15...exd5 16.exd5 ♘b8

16...♘a5 17.♖he1 ♖he8 18.♖e4 ♕c5 19.♖xb4 ♔c7 20.♖d4 f5 21.b4 ♕b6 22.♔a2 ♘b7 23.a5 ♕a7 24.♖c4+ ♔b8 25.♘d4±

17.♖he1 ♖de8 18.a5! ♕xa5 19.♖e4 ♗d8 20.♖xb4 ♗c7 21.♘d4

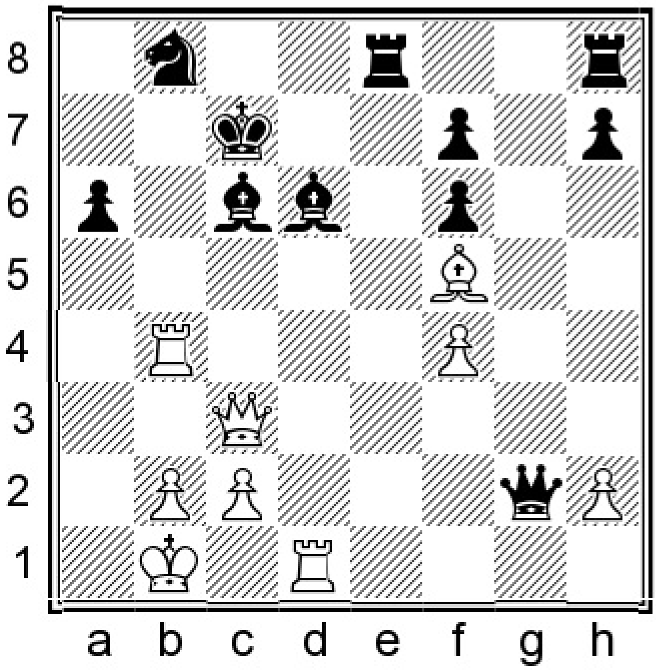
21.♕c3 ♕c5 (21...♖e3 22.♘d2 ♖he8 23.♘c4 ♕c5 24.♘xe3 ♕xc3 25.bxc3 ♖xe3∞) 22.♖c4 ♕b6 23.♖b4 ♕c5 24.♖c4=

21...♕xd5 22.♕c3 ♕xg2??

22...♕h5 23.g4 ♕xg4 24.♖c1 ♕g2 25.♘f5 ♖e6 26.♗e4 ♕f2 27.♖d1 ♕c5 28.♖c4 ♖xe4 29.♖xc5 dxc5 30.♕xc5 ♗xf5 31.♕xf5+ ♖e6∞; 22...♔d8 23.♖c4 ♕a5 24.♖b4 ♕c5=

23.♘f5 ♖e6

23...♗c6 24.♘xd6+ ♗xd6 25.♗f5+ ♔c7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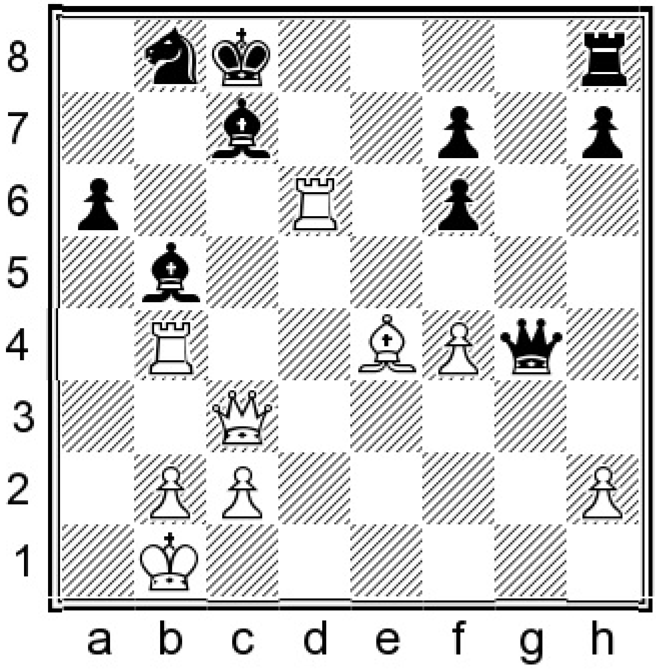
26.♖b3!! ♖e6 (26...♘d7 27.♕a5+ ♔c8 28.♖xd6 ♕f1+ 29.♔a2 ♕c4 30.♖xc6+ ♕xc6 31.♖c3+-) 27.♕a5+ ♔d7 28.♕c5 ♔e7 29.♖xd6 ♖xd6 30.♖e3++-; 23...♕c6 24.♖c4 ♕b6 25.♖xc7+! ♕xc7 26.♘xd6++-

24.♗e4 ♕g4

24...♕f2 25.♘xd6+ ♖xd6 26.♖xd6+-

25.♘xd6+ ♖xd6 26.♖xd6 ♗b5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27.♕c5

27.♖xb5! axb5 (27...♕g1+ 28.♔a2 axb5 29.♕h3++-) 28.♕c5 ♕xf4 (28...♘d7 29.♖xd7+-) 29.♗f5+

♔b7 30.♕xb5+ ♔a7 31.♕c5+ ♔b7 32.♕d5+ ♔a7 33.♗e4+-

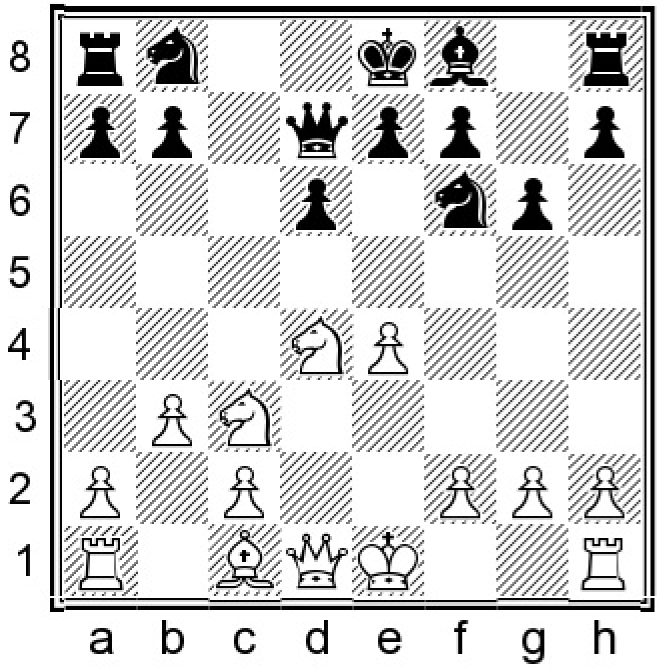
27...♘d7 28.♖xd7 ♗xd7 29.♖c4 ♕xf4 30.♗b7+ ♔xb7

30...♔d8 31.♖xf4 ♗xf4 32.♗c6+-

31.♖xf4 ♗xf4 32.♕b4+ ♔c8 33.♕xf4 ♗e6 34.♕xf6 ♖d8 35.b3 h5 36.♕c3+ ♔b7 37.♕f3+ 1-0

61. B70
Carlsen, Magnus (2855) - Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2763)
chess24.com (Int.-m/3-rapid) 150/61, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘c3 d6 3.♗b5+ ♗d7 4.♗xd7+ ♕xd7 5.♘f3 ♘f6 6.d4 cxd4 7.♘xd4 g6 8.b3



8.O-O - 31/269

8...d5!?N

8...♗g7

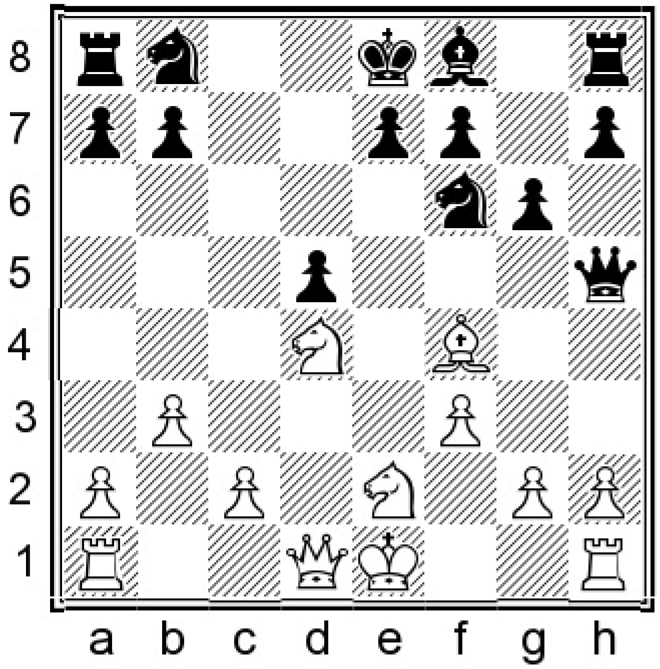
9.e5?!

9.♗b2 dxe4 10.♘db5 a6 11.♕xd7+ ♔xd7 12.♖d1+ (12.O-O-O+!?) 12...♔c6 13.♘d4+ ♔c7∞; 9.exd5 ♘xd5 10.♘xd5 ♕xd5 11.O-O ♗g7 12.♗e3 O-O=; 9.♕d3!?

9...♕c7! 10.♘ce2

10.♘db5 ♕xe5+ 11.♕e2 ♕xe2+ 12.♔xe2 ♔d7 (12...♘a6 13.♗b2 ♖c8 (13...♖g8 14.♖hd1 e6 15.♘a4 ♘e4 16.c4=∞) 14.♖hd1 e5∞) 13.♖d1 ♗g7 14.♗e3 e6∓

10...♕xe5 11.♗f4 ♕h5 [Δ Qg4] **12.f3?!**



12.♕d2 ♕g4 13.f3 ♕d7 (13...♕xg2? 14.♕b4! e5 (14...♕xh1+?! 15.♔f2 ♕xa1 16.♕xb7 e5 17.♗xe5 ♘fd7 18.♘c6! ♗c5+ 19.♔g2 O-O 20.♗xa1+-) 15.♕b5+ ♘bd7 16.♖g1 ♕h3 17.♗xe5±) 14.O-O-O ♗g7∓; 12.h4 ♕g4 (12...♗h6? 13.g4! ♘xg4 14.♘g3 ♘xf2 15.♘xh5 ♘xd1 16.♗xh6+-) 13.f3 ♕d7∓

12...♗h6! 13.g4 ♕h3 14.♕d2 ♗xf4 15.♘xf4 ♕h4+ 16.♔d1

16.♕f2 ♕xf2+ 17.♔xf2 ♘c6∓

16...♘c6 17.♘g2 ♕h3 18.♘f4 ♕h6 19.h4 ♕g7

⌓19...♘d7

20.c3 O-O 21.g5 ♘h5

21...♘d7! 22.♘xd5 ♕e5 23.♘e3 h5!∓

22.♘xh5 gxh5 23.♖e1

23.♘xc6!? bxc6 24.♖e1; 23.♔c2!?

23...e6 24.f4 ♖ac8 25.♖c1 ♖fe8 26.♕d3

26.♖c2!?

26...♕g6

26...♕f8!?

27.♔d2 ♘xd4 28.♕xg6+ hxg6 29.cxd4 ♔f8 30.♖xc8?!

30.b4

30...♖xc8 31.♖c1?

31.a4

31...♖xc1 32.♔xc1 f6-+ 33.♔d2 ♔f7 34.♔e3 e5 35.fxe5 fxe5 36.dxe5 ♔e6 37.♔d4 b6 38.b4 b5 39.a3 a6 0-1

62. B71
Shevchenko, Kirill (2605) - Erigaisi, Arjun (2567)
chess.com (Int.-m2/4-blitz) 150/62, 2021

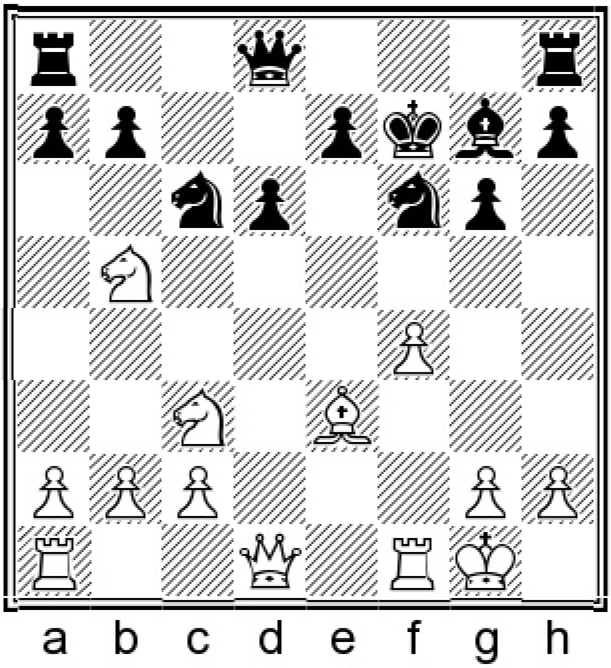
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 g6 6.f4 ♗g7 7.e5 ♘h5 8.♗b5+ ♗d7 9.e6

9.♕e2 - 71/223

9...♗xb5 10.exf7+ ♔xf7 11.♘dxb5 ♘f6

11...♘c6 12.♗e3 a6!?

12.♗e3 ♘c6 13.O-O



13.♕e2

13...♖e8?!N

13...♕c8? 14.f5! (14.♕e2) 14...gxf5 15.♘d5 ♖d8 (15...h5?! 16.♘xe7! ♔xe7 17.♘xd6 ♕e6 18.♘xf5+ ♔f7 19.♕f3 ♖ae8 20.♖ae1 ♕d5 21.♕g3 ♗f8 22.♘h4+-) 16.♘xf6 ♗xf6 17.♕h5+ ♔g8 18.♖f3±; 13...♕d7; 13...a6

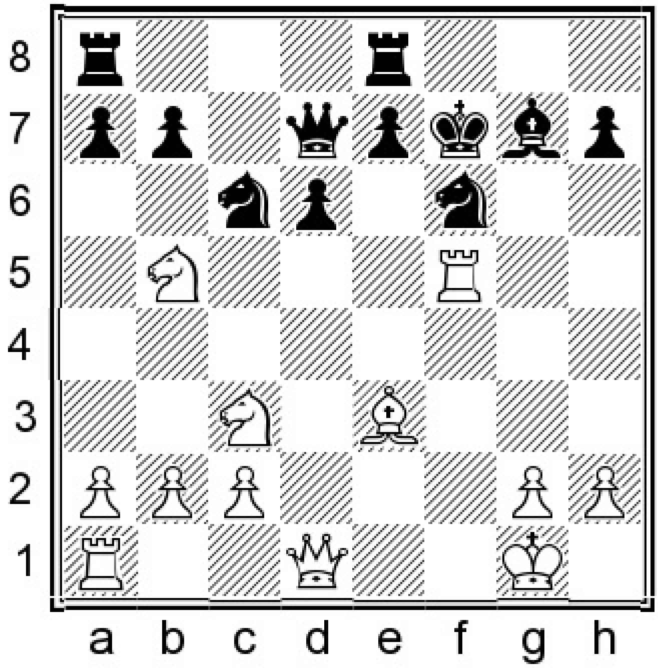
14.f5

14.♘d5 ♖c8 15.f5 ♔g8 - 14.f5

14...gxf5

14...♔g8?! 15.♘d5 ♖c8 (15...gxf5 16.♘bc7 ♕d7 17.♘xf6+ ♗xf6 18.♘xa8 ♖xa8 19.c3±) 16.fxg6 hxg6 17.c3±

15.♖xf5 ♕d7?!



15...♔g8

16.♕g4?

16.♕d5+! e6 (16...♔f8?! 17.♖af1 a6 18.♘d4 (18.♘xd6!? ♕xd6 19.♖xf6+ ♕xf6 20.♖xf6+ exf6 21.♗c5++-) 18...♘xd4 19.♗xd4 ♕c6 20.♕b3+-) 17.♖xf6+ ♗xf6 18.♘xd6+ (18.♕f3!?) 18...♔g8 19.♘xe8 ♕xe8 20.♕b5+-

16...♘e5 17.♕h3 ♔g8 18.♖af1 ♖f8 19.♘d4

19.♘xa7?! ♘fg4! 20.♖xf8+ ♖xf8 21.♖xf8+ ♔xf8 22.♘ab5 ♔g8=∞

19...♘eg4

⌓19...♘fg4

20.♗g5

20.♖g5!?

20...e5?!

20...♖f7

21.♘de2 ♖f7

21...♕c6 22.♕h4 h6 23.♗xf6 ♘e3 24.♕g3 (24.♘e4!?) 24...♘xf5 25.♖xf5 ♖f7 26.♗xg7 ♖xg7

27.♕f2+-

22.♕g3?

22.♕h4+- Δ h3

22...♖af8 23.h3?

23.♕h4±

23...♘h5 24.♕xg4 ♖xf5-+ 25.♖xf5

25.♖d1 ♘f4

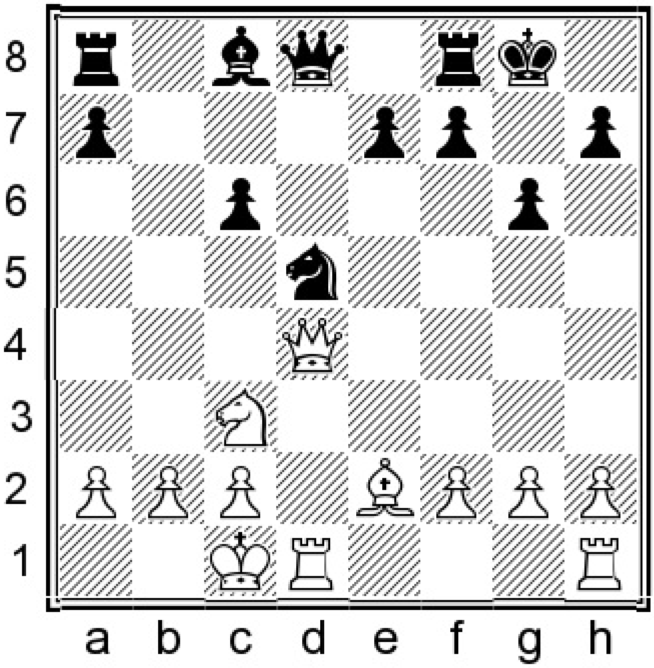
25...♕xf5 26.♕xh5 h6 27.♘d5 ♕xg5 28.♕xg5 hxg5 29.♘g3 ♔f7 30.♘e4 ♔e6 31.c4 ♗h6 32.b3 ♖f7 33.g3 b5 0-1

63. B72
Khanin, Semen (2517) - Mamedov, Rauf (2654)
chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/63, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 g6 6.♗e2 ♗g7 7.♗e3 O-O 8.♕d2 ♘c6 9.O-O-O d5

9...♘g4 - 70/(203)

10.exd5 ♘xd5 11.♘xc6 bxc6 12.♗d4 ♗xd4 13.♕xd4



13...♕b6N

13...♗e6; 13...♕c7

14.♘xd5

14.♘a4!?

14...cxd5 15.♕xb6

15.♔b1 ♕xd4 16.♖xd4 ♗b7 17.f4 e6=; 15.♖he1 e6 (15...♕xd4 16.♖xd4 e6 17.♗f3 ♖b8 18.♖e3↑) 16.h4 ♖b8 17.♕f6 ♕d8 18.♕e5↑

15...axb6 16.♖xd5

16.a3

16...♖xa2

16...♗b7 17.♖dd1 (17.♖b5 ♖xa2 18.♖e1 ♖d8 19.♗d3 ♖d6=) 17...♗xg2 18.♖hg1 ♗e4 19.a3=

17.♔b1?!

17.♖e1 ♗b7 18.♖b5 - 16...Bb7

17...♗e6?!

17...♗b7∓

18.♔xa2?!

18.♖dd1 ♖fa8 19.♔c1=

18...♗xd5+ 19.♔a3 ♗xg2 20.♖d1 ♖c8 21.c4 ♗c6?!

21...♖c5∓

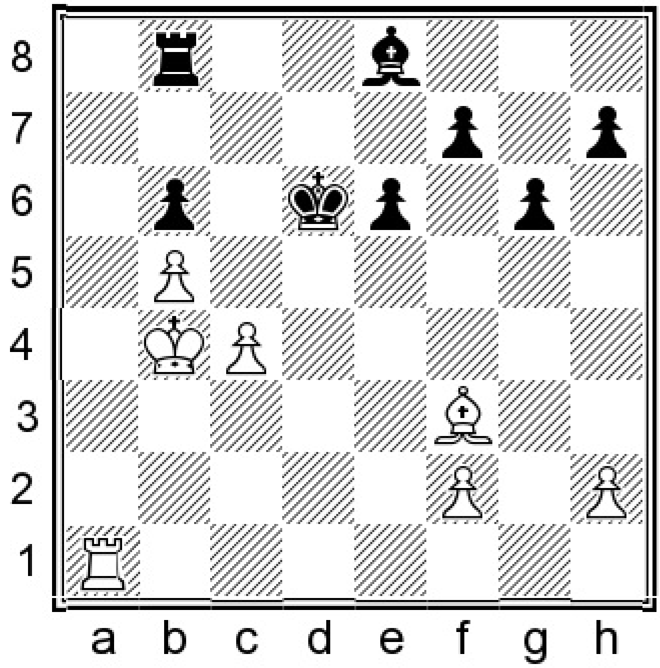
22.b4 ♖a8+ 23.♔b2 ♔f8 24.b5 ♗e8?

24...♗e4

25.♗f3 ♖b8 26.♔b3⩱ e6?

26...f5; 26...e5

27.♔b4 ♔e7 28.♖a1! ♔d6?!



28...e5

29.♖a6! ♔e5?

29...♔c7 30.♗e2±

30.♖a7?!

30.♗c6! ♗xc6 31.bxc6+-

30...h5?!

30...♔d6☐ 31.♖a6 - 29.Ra6

31.♗c6+- ♗xc6 32.bxc6 ♔d6 33.♔b5 e5 34.c7

34.♖xf7

34...♖c8 35.♔xb6 ♔d7 36.c5 e4 37.c6+ ♔d6 38.♖a1 ♖e8 39.♖d1+ ♔e5 40.♖d8 1-0

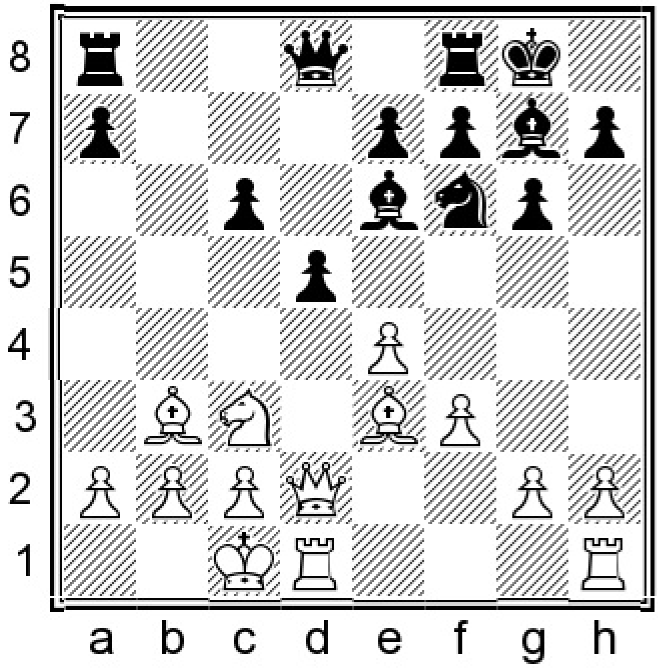
B75-B99

64. B76
Demchenko, Anton (2597) - Lagarde, Maxime (2631)
Reykjavik 150/64, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 g6 6.♗e3 ♗g7 7.f3 O-O 8.♕d2 ♘c6 9.O-O-O d5 10.♘xc6 bxc6 11.♗c4

11.♗h6 - 148/68

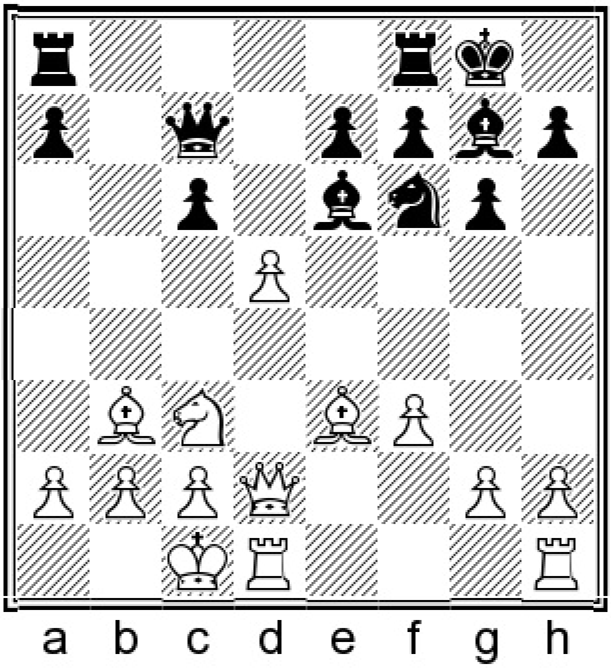
11...♗e6 12.♗b3



12...♕c7N

12...♕b8

13.exd5



13.♗f4!? ♕b6 14.♘a4 ♕b5 15.exd5 ♗xd5! (15...cxd5 16.♖he1 ♖fd8 17.♗e5±) 16.♖he1 e6 (16...♖ad8!?) 17.♗e3 ♗xb3 18.axb3 ♘d5∞

13...♘xd5!

13...cxd5 14.♗d4±; 13...♗xd5 14.♗f4↑

14.♗d4 ♗xd4 15.♕xd4 ♘xc3

15...♖fd8!?

16.♕xc3 ♗xb3 17.axb3 ♖fd8= 18.g3

18.♔b1!?

18...♕b6 19.h4 ♖d5

19...h5!?

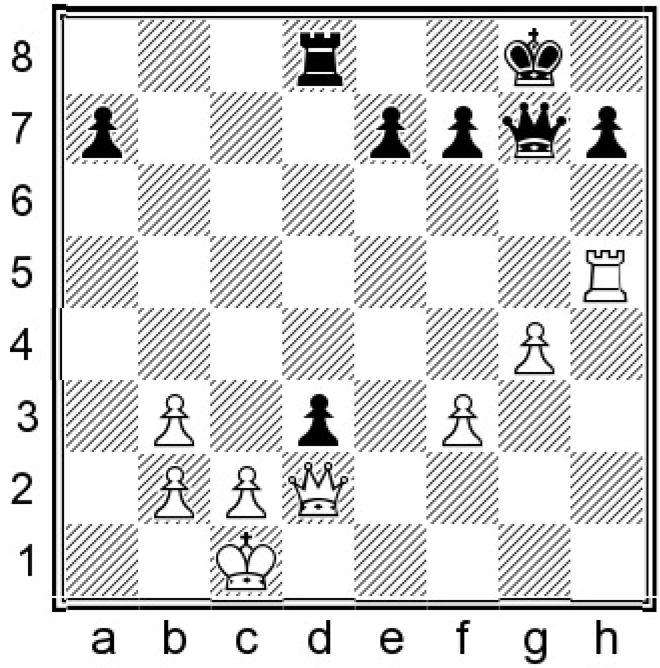
20.♖xd5 cxd5 21.h5 d4

21...gxh5 22.♕e5 ♖c8=

22.♕d2 ♖d8 23.hxg6

23.♕h6 e5=

23...♕xg6□ 24.g4 d3 25.♖h6 ♕g7 26.♖h5



26...♕d4!

26...♔f8 27.c3±; 26...f6 27.♕a5 ♖d6 28.♕xa7 (28.c3 d2+ 29.♔d1 ♕f7 30.♕b5 ♔g7 31.♕c4 ♕g6 32.♕e4 ♕xe4 33.fxe4 e5=) 28...♕g6=

27.♕g5+ ♔f8 28.♕h6+ ♔e8□ 29.♕c6+ ♔f8 30.♕h6+ 1/2-1/2

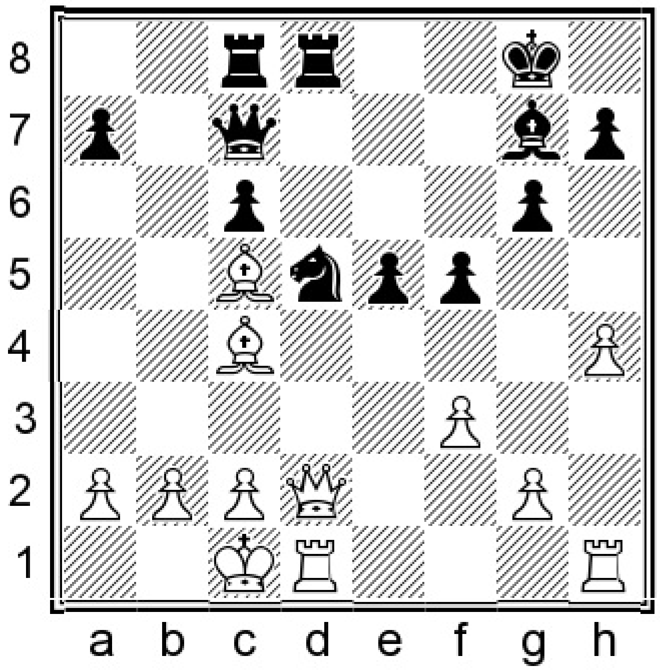
65. ***** B76**
Swiercz, Dariusz (2647) - Naroditsky, Daniel (2623)
USA (ch) 150/65, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 g6 6.♗e3 ♗g7 7.f3 ♘c6 8.♕d2 O-O 9.O-O-O d5 10.exd5 ♘xd5 11.♘xc6 bxc6 12.♗d4 e5 13.♗c5 ♖e8 14.♘e4 ♕c7 15.h4 f5

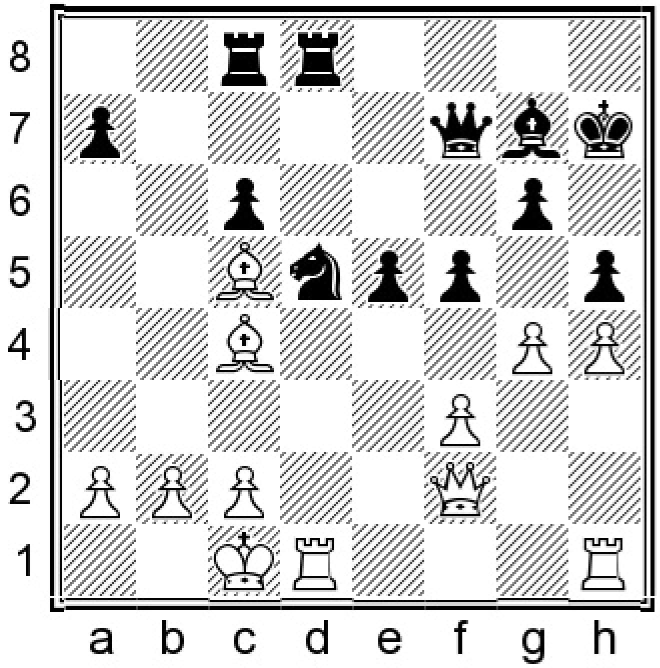
15...♖d8 - 83/201

16.♘d6 ♖d8 17.♘xc8 ♖axc8 18.h5

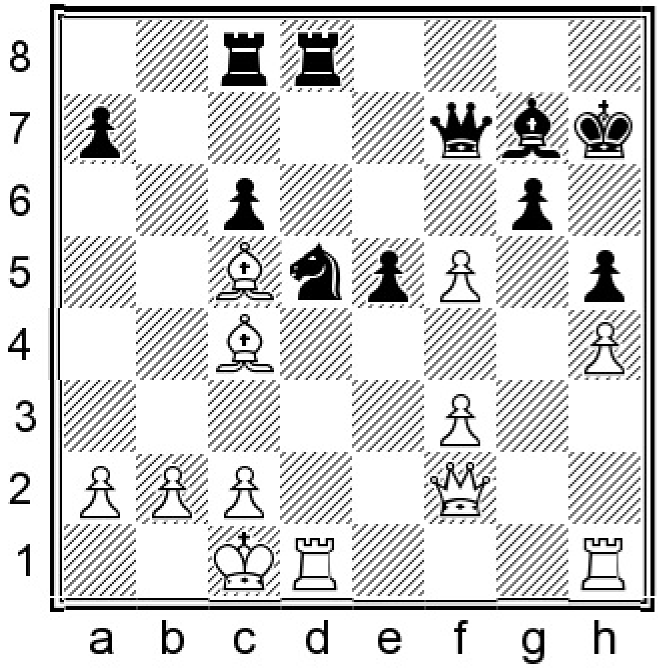
18.♗c4



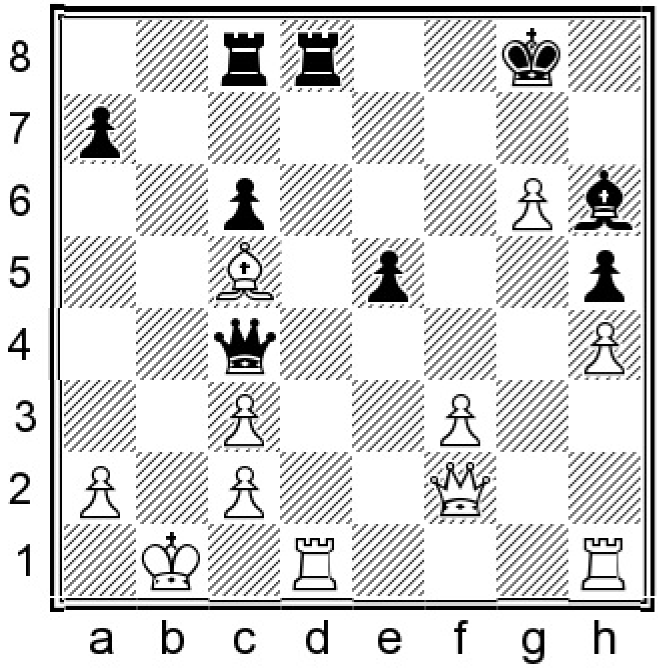
18...h5N (18...♗f8?! 19.♗xf8 ♔xf8 20.h5! (20.♕e1?!) 20...♘f4 21.♕e3 ♘xh5 22.♗e6±) 19.g4 ♔h7 20.♕f2 (20.♕e1!?) 20...♕f7



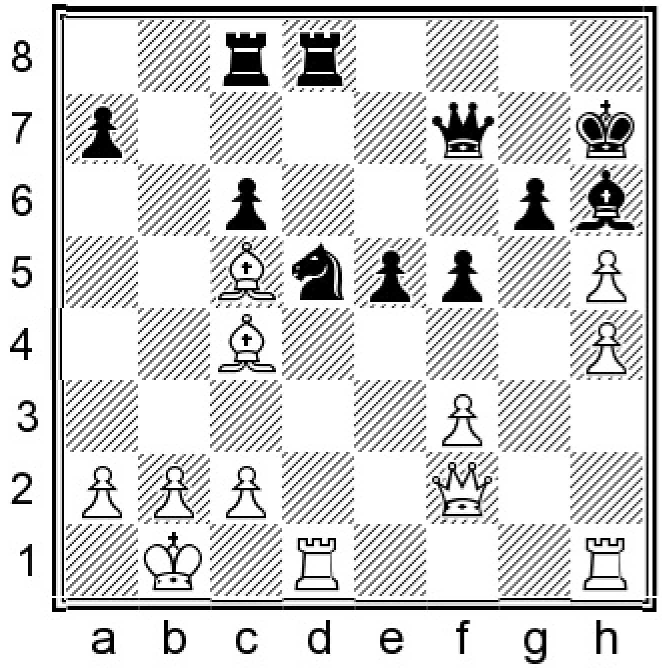
21.gxh5 - 150/(65) (21.gxf5N



21...♗h6+ (21...gxf5?!N 22.♗b3± Sokolovsky, Y (2422)-Leisch,L (2406) tornelo.com (Internet) 150/(65) 2021) 22.♔b1 ♘c3+! 23.bxc3 ♕xc4 24.fxg6+ ♔g8

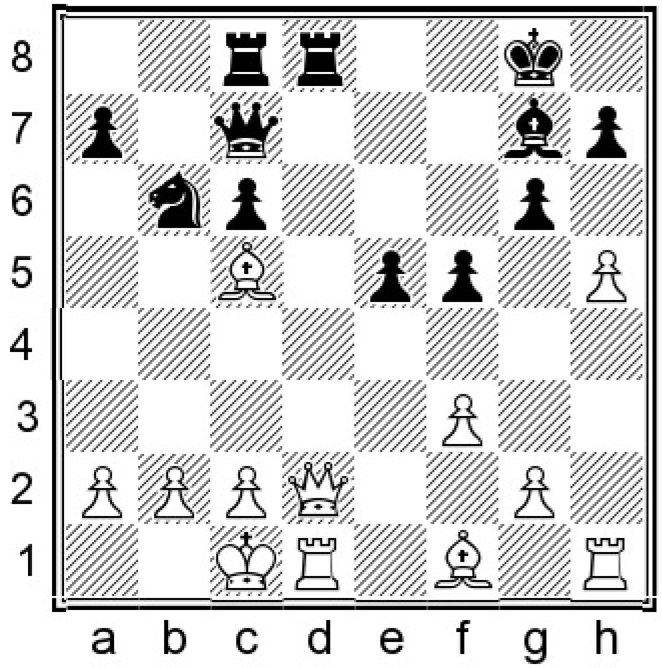


25.♖xd8+! ♖xd8 26.♗b4 ♖b8 27.♕xa7 ♖xb4+ 28.cxb4 ♕xb4+ 29.♔a1 ♕c3+ 30.♔b1 ♕b4+= 1/2 (30) Ter Sahakyan,S (2624) -Sebenik,M (2492) Reykjavik 150/(65) 2021) 21...♗h6+ 22.♔b1



22...♘c3+! 23.bxc3 ♕xc4 24.♖xd8 ♖xd8≅ Sadhwani,R (2579)-Koepke,C (2340) Innsbruck 150/ (65) 2021

18...♘b6



19.♗xb6N

19.♕e3 ♖xd1+ 20.♔xd1 ♕f7 21.hxg6 hxg6 22.♕b3 ♖d8+ 23.♔c1 ♕xb3 24.axb3 ♗f8 25.♗f2 ♗e7=

19...♖xd2

19...♕xb6?! 20.♗c4+ ♔f8 21.♕g5±; 19...axb6!? 20.♗c4+ ♔f8

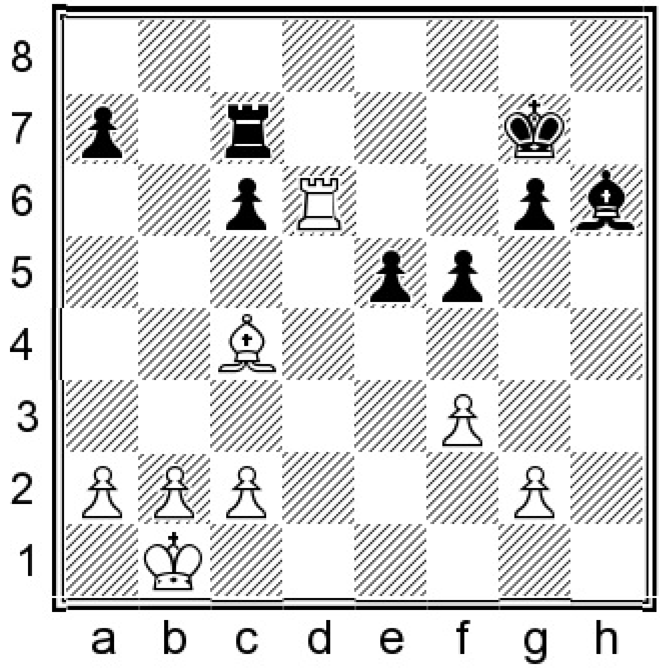
20.♗c4+ ♔f8

20...♔h8? 21.♗xc7 ♖xd1+ 22.♔xd1 ♖xc7 23.hxg6+-

21.♗xc7 ♖xd1+ 22.♖xd1

22.♔xd1 ♖xc7 23.c3 ♗f6=

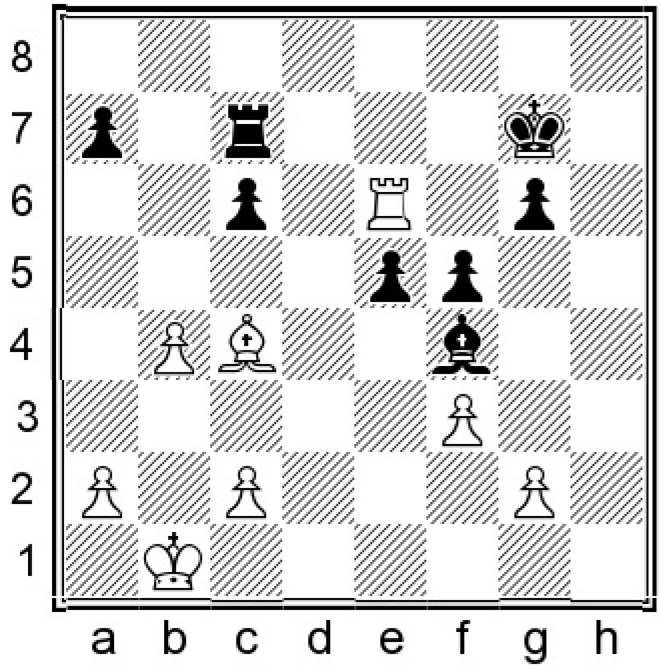
22...♖xc7 23.hxg6 ♗h6+ 24.♔b1 hxg6 25.♖d6 ♔g7


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

26.b4±

26.♖e6!? ♖d7 27.♗d3 ♗f4 28.a4±

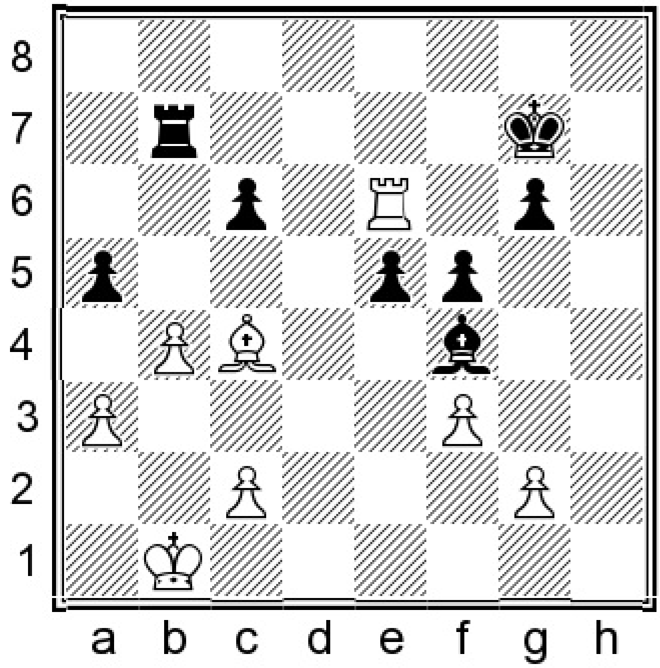
26...♗f4 27.♖e6



27...♖b7N

27...♗d2?! - 150/ (65) 28.a3 a5 29.bxa5± Van Foreest,J (2701)-Abasov,N (2665) Praha 150/ (65) 2021

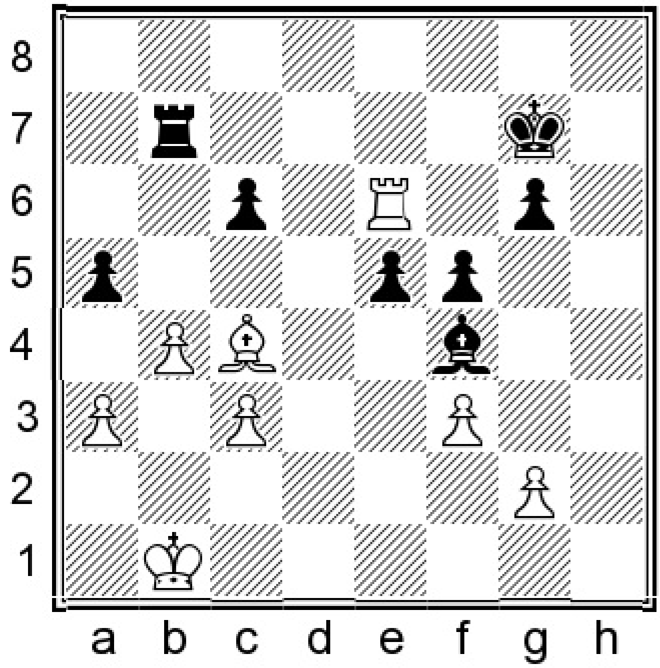
28.a3 a5



29.♔b2! - 150/ 65

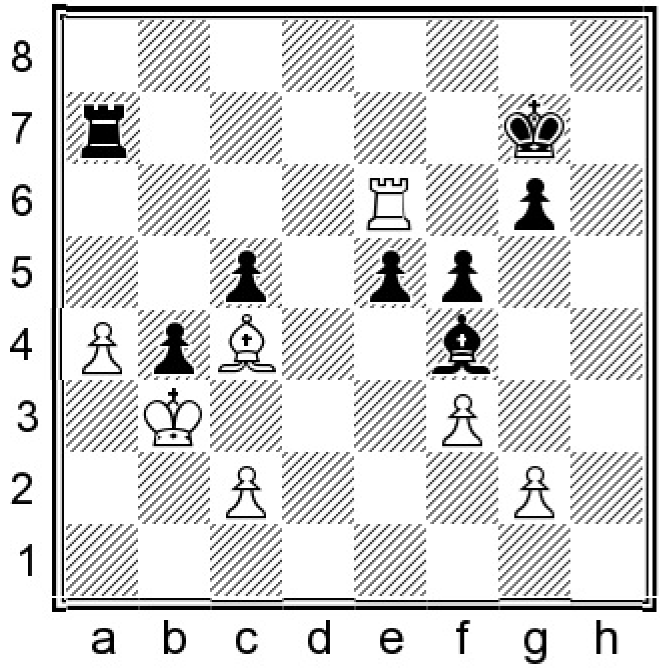
29.♗a6N ♖b8 30.♗c4 axb4 31.a4 ♖a8 32.♔a2 ♖xa4+ 33.♔b3 ♖a1 34.♔xb4 ♖b1+ 35.♔c5 ♖c1 36.♗b3 ♖g1 37.c3 ♖xg2 38.♔xc6 ♗d2 39.♖xe5 ♗xc3 40.♖e3 ♗b2 41.♗d5 ♖d2 42.♖e6 ♗a3 43.♖e3 ♗f8 44.♗c4 ♖d4 45.♔b5 ♖d1 46.♖d3 ♖b1+ 47.♔c6 ♔f6 48.♗d5 ♖c1+ 1/2 (48) Cordes,T-Villeneuve,R corr 150/(65) 2021

29.c3N



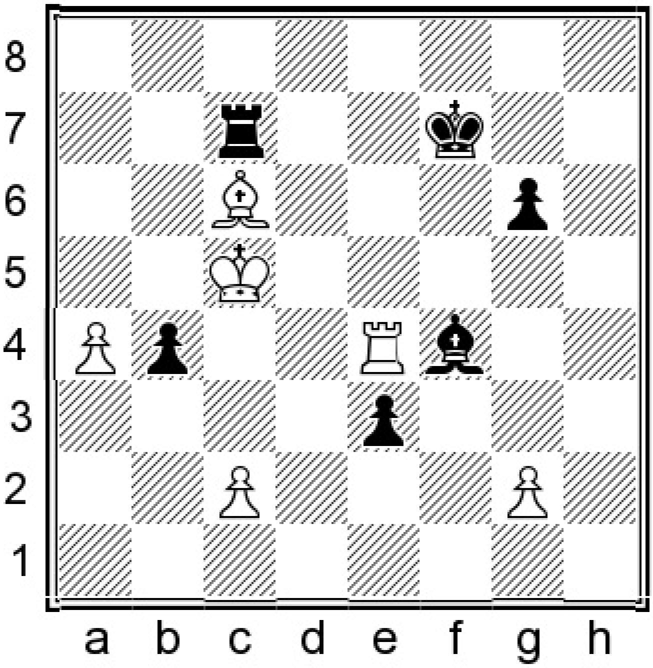
29...a4! 30.♔c2 (30.♖xc6 ♖d7=) 30...♖d7 31.♗d3 ♖c7= Santos Latasa,J (2635)-Idani,P (2610) Espana 150/(65) 2021

29...axb4 30.a4! ♖a7 31.♔b3 c5 32.♗b5 ♔f7 33.♗c4 ♔g7



34.♗d3 ♗g3 - 150/65

34...♔f7N 35.♖b6 ♖a5 36.♗c4+ ♔g7 37.♗b5 e4 (37...♔f7!?) 38.fxe4 fxe4 39.♖e6 e3 40.♔c4 ♖a7! 41.♔xc5 ♖c7+ 42.♗c6 ♔f7! 43.♖e4



43...g5? (43...♗g5! 44.♔b5 ♖e7 45.♖xe7+ ♗xe7 46.♗f3 ♔e8 47.♔b6 ♔d8 48.♔b7 ♔d7 49.a5 ♗c5=) 44.a5 ♖e7 45.♖xe7+ ♔xe7 46.♗f3+- Kollars,D (2621)-Blomqvist,E (2536) Stavanger (open) 150/(65) 2021

35.♖c6 ♖a5

⌓35...♗f2

36.♗b5 ♖a7?

36...♗f2

37.♖xc5 e4 38.fxe4 fxe4 39.♖c6 ♖c7?!

39...e3; 39...♖e7

40.♔xb4

40.♖xc7+ ♗xc7 41.♔xb4

40...♖xc6

40...♗e1+ 41.c3 ♖xc6 42.♗xc6 e3 43.♗f3+-

41.♗xc6 e3 42.♗f3+- ♔f6 43.a5

43.♔b5!? ♔e7 44.♔c6

43...♔e7 44.♔c5 ♔d7 45.a6 ♔c7 46.♔d5 ♔b6 47.♗e2 ♗h4 48.♔e6 ♗d8 49.♔f7 g5 50.♔g6 ♔a7 51.♔f5 ♗e7 52.♔e4 ♗c5 53.♔d5 ♗b6 54.c4 ♔b8 55.c5 ♗a7 56.♔d6 ♔c8 57.♗g4+ ♔d8 58.c6 ♗b8+ 59.c7+! 1-0

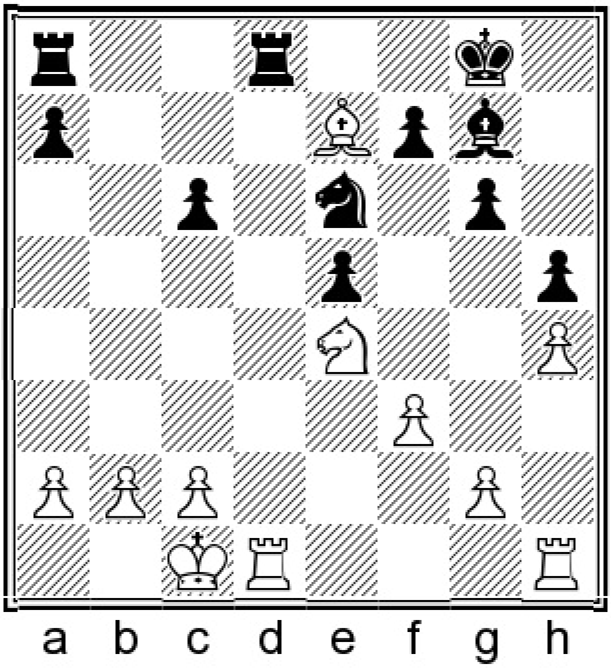
66. B76

Goganov, Aleksey (2571) - Paravyan, David (2625)
Bryansk 150/66, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 g6 6.♗e3 ♗g7 7.f3 ♘c6 8.♕d2 O-O 9.O-O-O d5 10.exd5 ♘xd5 11.♘xc6 bxc6 12.♗d4 e5 13.♗c5 ♗e6 14.♘e4 ♖e8 15.h4 h5 16.♗c4 ♘f4

16...a5 - 63/180

17.♗xe6 ♘xe6 18.♕xd8 ♖exd8 19.♗e7



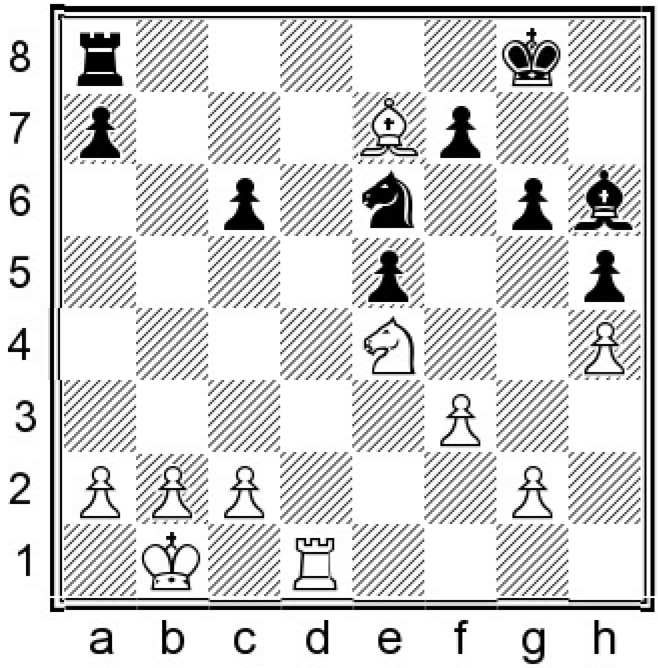
19...♗h6+N

19...♖xd1+

20.♔b1 ♖xd1+

20...♖dc8? 21.g4 (21.♘f6+ ♔h8 22.♗d6 ♗f4 23.♘d7+-) 21...♗f8 (21...♘f4 22.♘f6+ ♔h8 23.gxh5 ♘xh5 24.♖d7+-; 21...hxg4 22.♘f6+ ♔h8 23.♘xg4+-) 22.♗f6 hxg4 23.h5 gxh5 24.♖xh5 ♗g7 25.fxg4+-; 20...♖d4?! 21.♘f6+ ♔h8 22.c3 ♖xd1+ 23.♖xd1±

21.♖xd1



21...f5!

21...♘f4 22.♘f6+ ♔h8 23.g3 ♘e2 24.g4±; 21...♘d4 22.c3 ♘f5 23.♗g5±; 21...♗f8 22.♗g5!±

22.♘g5 ♖e8

22...♗xg5!? 23.♗xg5 ♘xg5 24.hxg5 e4 25.fxe4 fxe4 26.♖d6 ♖f8 27.♖xg6+ ♔h7 28.♖h6+ ♔g7 29.♔c1 e3 30.♔d1 ♖f2=

23.♖d7

23.♖d6 ♖xe7 24.♘xe6 e4∓; 23.♘xe6 ♖xe7 24.♘d8=

23...♗xg5

23...♘xg5 24.hxg5 ♗f8 25.♗xf8 ♔xf8 26.♔c1 e4=; ⌓23...♘f4

24.hxg5?

24.♗xg5=

24...e4?!

24...a6; 24...♘f4

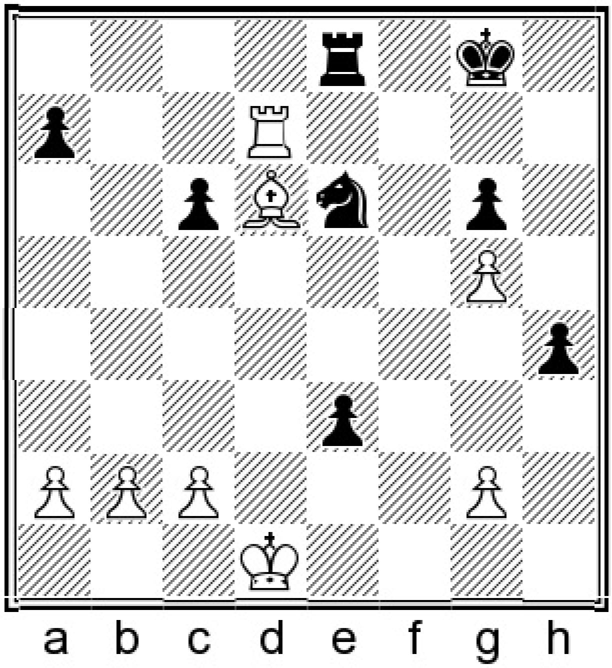
25.fxe4 fxe4 26.♔c1?

26.♗b4; 26.♖xa7

26...e3?!

26...h4 27.♔d1 ♘f4 28.♗d6 ♘xg2 29.♔e2 a5 30.♖c7 h3 31.♖xc6 ♘h4∓; 26...♘f4! 27.♗d6 ♘xg2 28.♔d2 ♘h4∓

27.♔d1 h4 28.♗d6?



28.♔e1 ♘f4 29.♔f1 e2+ 30.♔e1 (30.♔f2?? e1=Q+ 31.♔xe1 ♔f7-+) 30...♔f7 31.♗b4+ ♔e6 32.♖xa7 ♔f5 33.♔f2 ♔g4 34.♗e1 ♖d8∓; 28.♔e2! ♘f4+ 29.♔f3 e2 30.♗b4=

28...♘d4! 29.♖e7 ♖d8! 30.♗c7 ♖d5 31.c4

31.♖e8+ ♔f7 32.♖d8 ♖xd8 33.♗xd8 ♘e6 34.♗f6 ♘f4 35.♗d4 ♘xg2 36.♗xa7 ♔e6! 37.♔e2 ♘f4+! 38.♔f3 (38.♔xe3 h3!-+) 38...h3 39.♔g3 e2 40.♗f2 ♘g2-+

31...♖xg5-+ 32.♖xe3 ♖xg2 33.b4 g5 34.♗d8 ♔f7 35.a4 ♘e6 36.♖f3+ ♔e8 37.♗f6 ♖g4

37...g4!? 38.♖e3 h3

38.♖c3 ♖f4 39.♗e5 ♖e4 40.♗b8 a6

40...g4!?

41.b5 cxb5 42.axb5 axb5 43.cxb5 ♖b4 44.♖c6 ♘d4 45.♖c8+ ♔d7 46.♖c7+ ♔e6 0-1

67. B77
Solodovnichenko, Yuri (2546) - Istratescu, Andrei (2553)
France 150/67, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 g6 5.♘c3 ♗g7 6.♗e3 ♘f6 7.♗c4 O-O 8.♗b3 d6 9.f3 ♗d7 10.♕d2 ♘xd4 11.♗xd4 b5 12.h4

12.a4 - 132/78

12.O-O b4 (12...a5 13.a4 b4 14.♘d5± - 38/(284)) 13.♘d5 ♘xd5 14.exd5 ♗xd4+ 15.♕xd4 a5 16.♖fe1 ♖e8 17.♖e3 ♕c7 18.♖ae1 ♗b5⇄

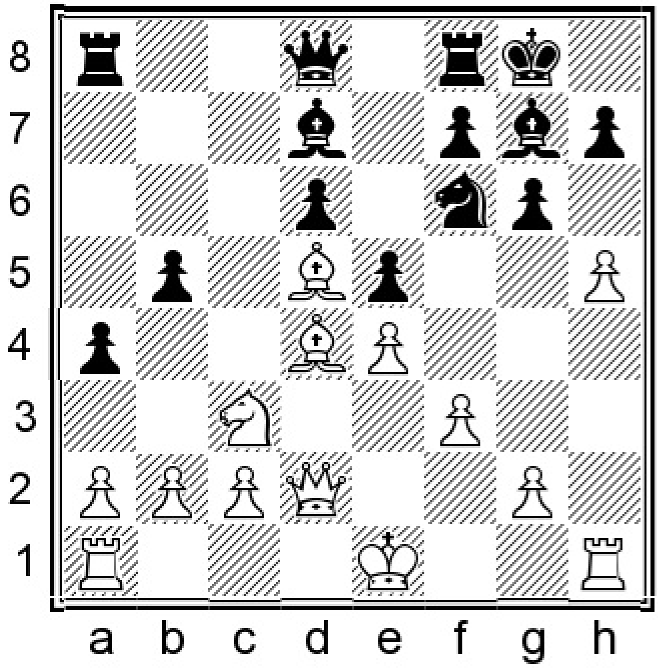
12...a5 13.h5

13.a4 bxa4 14.♘xa4 ♗e6⇄ - 106/222

13...a4

13...e5 14.hxg6! - 93/(172)

14.♗d5 e5!?



14...b4 - 106/221

15.h6!

15.♗e3 - 93/ 172

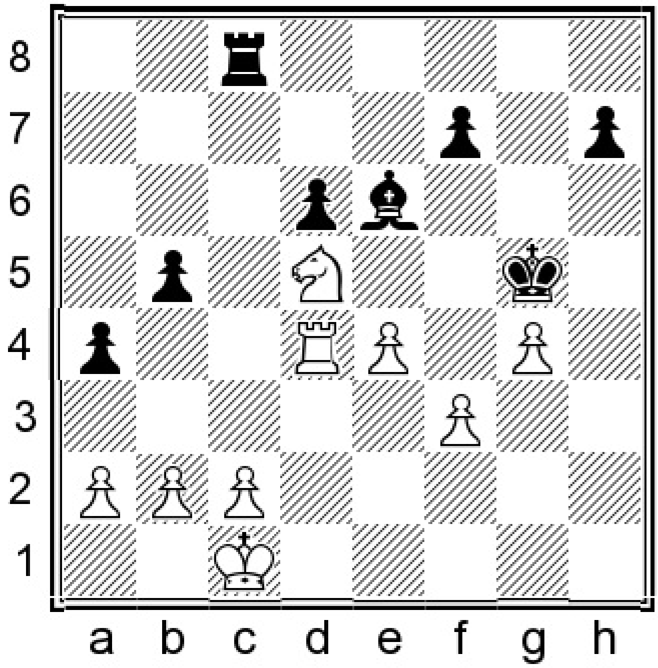
15...exd4N

15...♗h8 16.♗xa8 exd4 17.♘d5± - 93/171

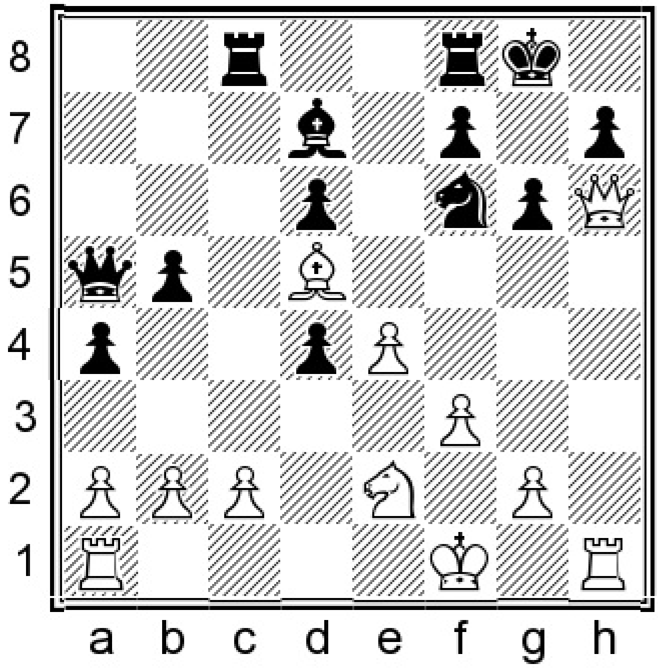
15...♗xh6 16.♕xh6 exd4 17.e5! - 103/145

16.hxg7 ♔xg7 17.♗xa8?!

17.♕xd4 ♖b8 18.a3 (18.O-O-O b4 19.♘e2 ♗b5 20.c4!?) 18...♕b6 19.O-O-O ♕xd4 20.♖xd4 ♖fd8 21.♖hd1±; 17.♘e2 ♖c8 18.♕h6+ ♔g8 19.O-O-O ♖e8 20.g4 ♖e5 21.♘f4 ♕f8 22.♕h2!? (22.♘xg6 ♕xh6+ 23.♖xh6 ♖xd5 24.♘e7+ ♔g7 25.♘xd5 ♔xh6 26.♘xf6 ♗e6 27.♖xd4 ♔g5 28.♘d5



28...♔h4! 29.♘b4 ♔g3 30.♖d3 ♖c4!? 31.a3 ♖c5 32.♔d2 ♗c4 33.♖e3 h5⇄) 22...♕g7 23.♖xd4 ♘xd5 (23...a3 24.♗b3 axb2+ 25.♔b1 ♘e8 26.♖d5±) 24.♘xd5 a3 25.♘b6 ♖ec5 26.♘xc8 axb2+ 27.♔b1 ♕xd4 28.♕xh7+ ♔f8 29.♕h6+ ♕g7 30.♕xg7+ ♔xg7 31.♘xd6 ♗e6 32.♔xb2 ♔f6 33.♖h7 ♔e7 34.♘b7 ♖c7 35.♘a5 ♗xa2 36.♔xa2 ♖a7 37.♔b3 ♖xa5 38.♖h1 ♖a4 39.♖d1±; 17.♕h6+ ♔g8 18.♘e2 ⌓♖c8 - 17.Ne2 (18...♕a5+ 19.♔f1 ♖ac8



(19...a3 20.bxa3 ♖ac8 21.♖d1 ♖fe8 (21...♗e6 22.♘xd4 ♗xd5 23.♘f5 ♗c4+ 24.♖d3!+-) 22.♘f4 ♗e6 23.♗xe6 ♖xe6 (23...fxe6 24.♕g5! ♕d8 25.♘xg6+-) 24.♘xe6 fxe6 25.♕g5! (25.♕f4 ♕d8!) 25...♔f7 26.♕f4 h5 27.♕xd6 ♖xc2 28.♔g1±) 20.♖d1! (20.♘xd4 ♕b4! 21.♖d1 ♕xb2⇄) 20...d3 21.cxd3 (21.♖xd3? ♖xc2∓) 21...♕b4 22.b3 (22.g4!? ♕xb2 23.♖d2 ♖c1+ 24.♘xc1 ♕xc1+ 25.♔g2 ♕c3 26.d4 ♖e8 27.♕f4! ♘xd5 28.exd5 f5 29.♖f2±) 22...♖c2 23.g4 ♖e8 (23...♗e6 24.e5! dxe5 25.g5 ♘h5

26.♖xh5 gxh5 27.♗e4+-) 24.♗xf7+! ♔xf7 25.g5 ♖d2 26.♖e1!± Δ♖xd3 27.gxf6 ♖xf3+ 28.♔g2 ♖xf6 29.♕xh7+ ♔e6 30.♘f4+! ♖xf4 31.♕xg6+ ♔e7 32.♕g5+ ♖f6 33.♖h7+ ♔d8 34.♕xf6+ ♔c8 35.♖e2! ♖g8+ 36.♔f3 ♕c5 37.♖h8+-)

17...dxc3∞ 18.♕xc3?!

18.♕h6+ ♔g8 19.O-O-O cxb2+ 20.♔xb2 ♕xa8 21.♖xd6 ♗e6 22.e5 a3+ 23.♔c1 ♘h5 24.♖xh5 gxh5 25.♕g5+=

18...♕xa8 19.O-O-O h5!

19...♕a7 20.g4∞

20.♖xd6 ♗e6∓ 21.♔b1

21.♕c5 ♕b7 22.♕b6 ♖b8 23.♕xb7 ♖xb7∓

21...♖d8 22.♖d4

22.♖d4 ♖xd4 23.♕xd4 ♕b8! 24.e5 (24.♖f1 ♕h2! 25.♕f2 h4-+) 24...♘d7∓ 25.♖e1 a3 26.bxa3 ♘b6 27.g4 hxg4 28.fxg4 ♘c4-+; 22.♖hd1 ♖c8 23.♕d4 (23.♕b4 ♕b8 24.b3 ♕c7 25.♖1d2 h4 26.♕d4 g5∓) 23...♖c4 24.♕b6 (24.♕d2 ♕c8 25.g4 ♕c5! 26.gxh5 ♕xh5 27.♖d3 ♖c8∓) 24...♕c8 25.♖1d2 ♕c5 26.b3 axb3 27.axb3 ♕xb6 28.♖xb6 ♖c5 29.♔b2 h4∓

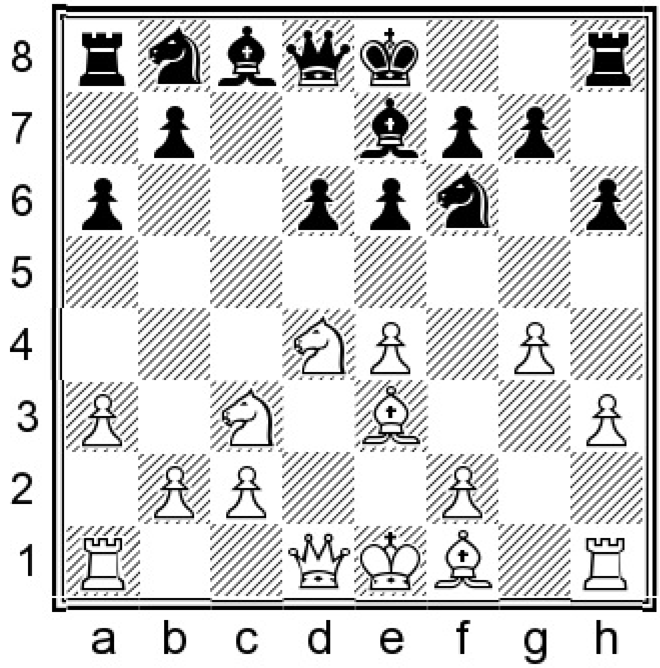
1/2-1/2

68. * B81
Caruana, Fabiano (2800) - Chigaev, Maksim (2639)
Riga 150/68, 2021

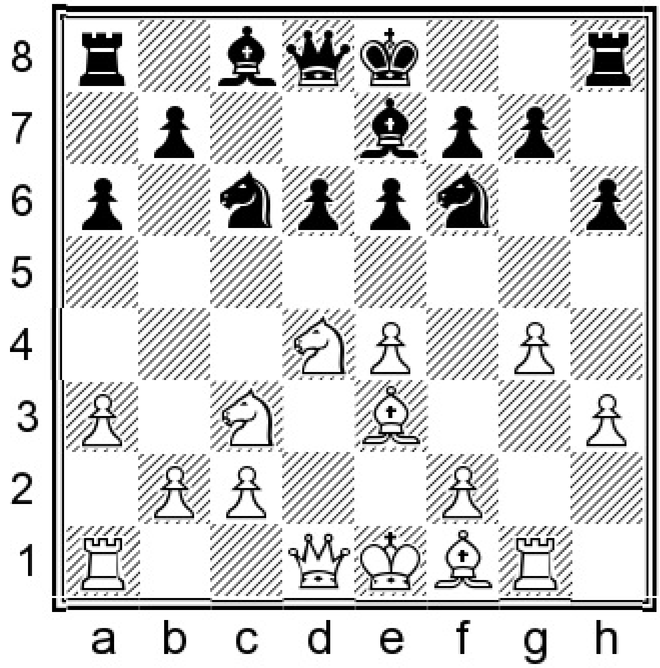
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.h3 e6 7.g4 h6 8.a3

8.♗g2 - 141/67

8...♗e7 9.♗e3



9...♘c6 10.♖g1



- 150/68

10.♕e2N ♘xd4 11.♗xd4 e5 12.♗e3 b5 13.O-O-O ♗b7 14.♗g2 ♖c8 15.h4 ♖xc3 16.bxc3 ♕a5 17.♔b2 ♘xe4 18.♗xe4 ♗xe4 19.♗b6 ♕a4∓ Gajewski,G (2596)-Wojtaszek,R (2694) Polska (ch) 150/(68) 2021

10.♗g2 O-O 11.f4 d5 12.e5 ♘d7 13.O-O ♘xd4 14.♗xd4 b6 15.♔h1 a5 16.g5 ♗a6 17.♖f2 g6 18.gxh6 ♗h4 19.♖d2 ♔h7 20.♕g4 ♕e7 21.♖g1±

10...♘d7N

10...♕c7

11.♗e2

11.h4 ♘de5=; 11.♕d2 ♘xd4 (11...♘de5 12.♗e2 ♘a5 13.b3 ♘ac6 14.♘xc6 ♘xc6 15.O-O-O±) 12.♗xd4 ♗g5 13.f4 ♗xf4 14.♕xf4 e5 15.♗xe5 (15.♕e3 exd4 16.♕xd4 ♕h4+ 17.♕f2 ♕xf2+ 18.♔xf2 ♘f6=) 15...♘xe5 16.O-O-O ♗e6 17.♖g2↑; 11.♕e2!? Paunovic, Tomislav

11...g5!?

11...♖b8 12.♕d2 ♘xd4 13.♗xd4 ♗g5 14.♗e3 b5 15.O-O-O±; 11...♘ce5!?

12.♕d2 ♘ce5 13.O-O-O b5 [Δ Nb6-c4]

13...♘b6?! 14.♘b3 ♘bc4 15.♗xc4 ♘xc4 16.♕d4 ♘e5 17.f4 gxf4 18.♗xf4±

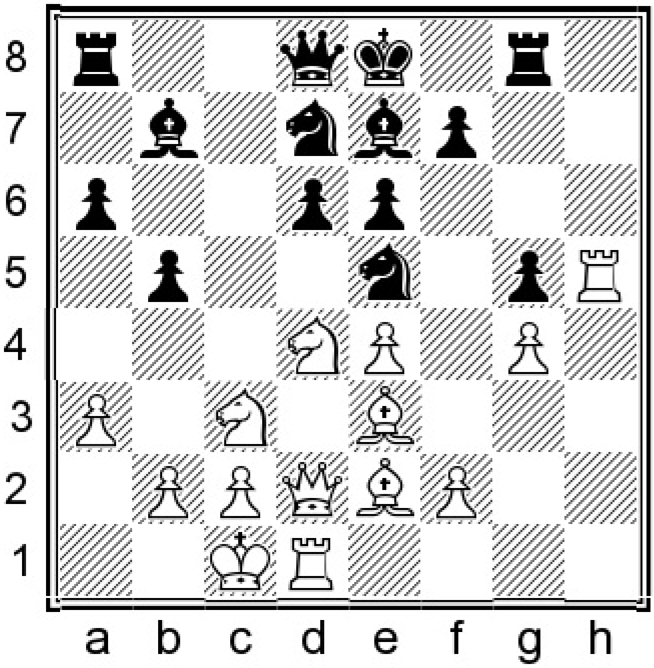
14.h4 ♗b7

14...gxh4? 15.f4 ♘c4 16.♗xc4 bxc4 17.♘c6+-; 14...♘b6 15.hxg5 (15.♖h1 ♖g8 16.hxg5 hxg5 17.♖h7 ♘bc4 18.♗xc4 ♘xc4 19.♘c6 ♘xd2 20.♘xd8 ♗xd8 21.♖xd2 ♗e7 22.♘e2↑ Paunovic,Tomislav) 15...hxg5 16.♖h1±

15.hxg5 hxg5 16.♖h1 ♖g8

16...♖xh1 17.♖xh1 ♗f6 18.♖h5±

17.♖h5



17.♘b3 ♕c7 18.f3 ♘b6 19.♘a5 ♘bd7 20.♘a2±

17...♖c8

17...♘b6!? 18.♕e1 ♖c8 19.♔b1⩲

18.♖dh1 ♗f6 19.f3

19.♘dxb5 axb5 20.♘xb5 ♖c6! 21.♘xd6+ ♖xd6 22.♕xd6 ♗xe4 23.f3! (23.♗b5? ♕c8∓; 23.♖1h3 ♕c8 24.♕d1 ♕b7∓) 23...♗xf3 24.♗b5 ♕e7 25.♕b8+ ♕d8 26.♕d6=; 19.♖h6!?

19...♕e7

19...♘b6! 20.b3 d5=

20.♔b1?!

20.♘b3!±

20...♘c4?!

20...♘b6 21.b3 ♘ed7 22.♘cxb5 axb5 23.♘xb5 d5 24.e5 ♗xe5 25.♗xg5 ♖xg5 26.♖xg5 ♕c5 27.f4 ♗f6⩲

21.♗xc4 ♖xc4 22.b3 ♖c8 23.♘d5?!

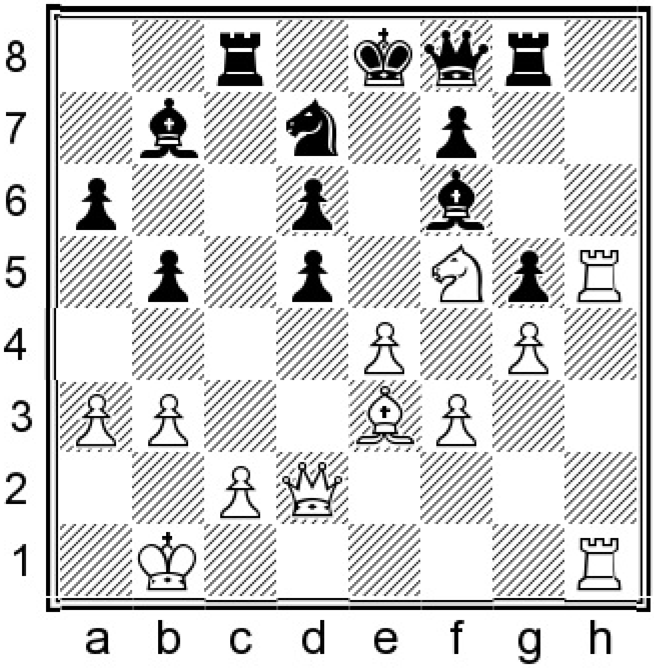
23.♖1h3 ♘e5 24.♖h7± (24.a4±)

23...exd5

23...♗xd5? 24.exd5+-

24.♘f5 ♕e6

RR24...♕f8?



25.♖xg5! ♗xg5 26.♗xg5 ♖g6 27.exd5 ♘e5 28.♗h6 (28.♗e7 ♕xe7 29.♘xe7 ♔xe7 30.f4! ♘xg4

31.♕d4! ♔d7 (31...♖gg8 32.♕e4+ ♔d8 33.♕f5 ♔c7 34.♕xf7+ ♔b6 35.♖h7 ♖b8 36.♕c7+ ♔a7 37.♕xd6+-) 32.♖h7+-) 28...♕g8 (28...♖xh6 29.♖xh6 ♘g6 (29...♔d7 30.♖xd6+ ♕xd6 31.♘xd6 ♔xd6 32.c4!+-) 30.♖h7+-) 29.f4+-; 24...♕e5 25.♗d4 ♕e6 26.♖h6 ♔f8! (26...♘e5 27.exd5 ♗xd5 28.♗xe5 dxe5 29.♖xf6 ♕xf6 30.♕xd5 ♖d8 31.♕c5 ♖d7 32.♖e1+-) 27.exd5 ♕xd5 28.♖d1 ♖e8 29.♗xf6 ♕xd2 30.♖xd2 ♗xf3 31.♗c3 ♗xg4 32.♘xd6 ♖e3∞ Paunovic,Tomislav

25.♗xg5 ♗c3

25...♖xg5! 26.♖xg5 ♘e5 27.♖g8+ ♔d7 28.♖xc8 ♘xf3 29.♕f4 ♗xc8 30.♕xf3 ♕e5 31.c3 dxe4=

26.♕h2 ♘e5

26...♗e5 27.f4 ♗f6 28.♖h6 (28.♗xf6 ♘xf6 29.♖h6) 28...d4 29.♗xf6 ♘xf6 30.e5 (30.♕h4? ♗xe4∓) 30...dxe5 31.fxe5 ♕d5 32.♘d6+ ♔d7 33.♖g1 d3 (33...♘xg4? 34.♖xg4 ♖xg4 35.e6++-) 34.♘xc8 dxc2+ 35.♔a2 ♖xc8 36.♖xf6 c1=Q 37.♖xc1 ♖xc1 38.♖d6+±; 26...♖g6 27.♗d2 ♘e5 (RR27...♗xd2? 28.exd5 ♕xd5 29.♘g7+ ♖xg7 30.♖xd5 ♗xd5 31.♕xd2 ♗b7 32.♕xd6+- Paunovic,Tomislav) 28.exd5 ♗xd5 29.♗xc3 ♖xc3 30.♘xd6+ ♕xd6 31.♖xe5+ ♔f8 32.♖xd5 ♖xb3+ 33.cxb3 ♕xd5 34.♕b8+ ♔e7 35.♕c7+±

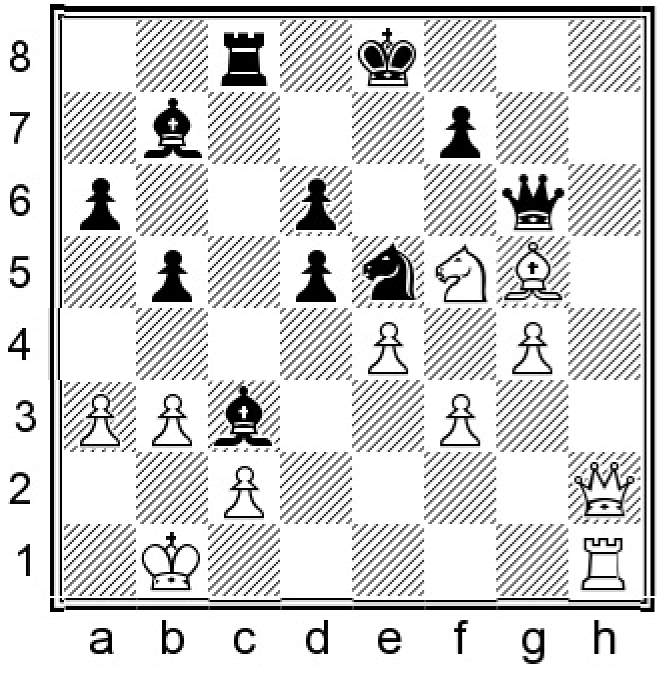
27.♖h6 ♖g6?

27...♘g6! 28.♘xd6+ ♔d7 29.♘xb7 ♔c6! 30.f4 ♔xb7 31.f5 ♕xe4 32.fxg6 ♖xg6=

28.♖xg6!

28.♘g7+? ♖xg7 29.♖xe6+ fxe6 30.♕h6 ♘g6!= (30...♖g6 31.♕h7+-)28.♕f2!? ♔d7 29.♕b6 ♖c7 30.♗f4+- Paunovic, Tomislav

28...♕xg6



29.♕f4

29.♕f2! ♕xg5 (29...♘xf3 30.♕b6 ♕xg5 31.♕xb7 ♔d8 32.♘xd6+-; 29...d4 30.♗f4+-) 30.♕b6 ♘d7 31.♕xb7 ♖b8 32.♕xd5+-

29...♘xf3

29...♗d2 30.♕xd2 ♘xf3 31.♕b4+- (31.♕f4+-)29...f6 30.♘xd6+ ♔d7 31.♗xf6 ♖f8 32.♖h6 ♖xf6 33.♕xf6 ♕xf6 34.♖xf6 ♗c6 35.g5 ♘g4 36.♖f8+-

30.♕xf3 dxe4

30...♕xg5 31.♘xd6+ ♔d7 32.♘xc8+-

31.♕e3 ♗g7

31...♗e5 32.♖h6 ♕g8 33.♘xd6++-

32.♕a7 ♕xg5

32...♖c7 33.♕b8+ ♔d7 34.♗d8 ♖c5 35.♗b6+-

33.♕xb7 ♖d8 34.♖h7

34.♖h7 ♖d7 35.♕xe4++-

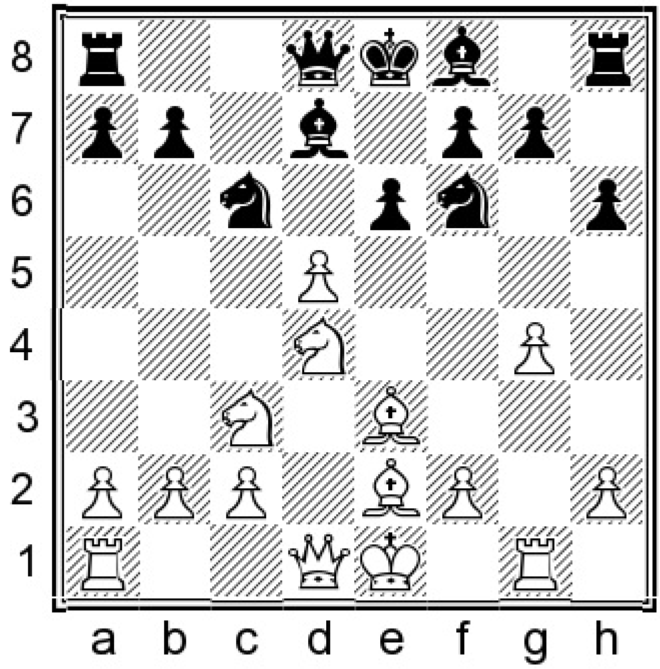
1-0

69. B81
Grandelius, Nils (2666) - Ftacnik, Lubomir (2513)
Reykjavik 150/69, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 e6 6.g4 h6 7.♖g1 ♘c6 8.♗e3 ♗d7 9.♗e2 d5

9...a6 - 13/464

10.exd5



10...♘xd5N

10...exd5

11.♘xd5 exd5 12.♕d2 ♗d6 13.O-O-O! ♗xh2 14.♖h1

14.♖ge1!?

14...♗e5 15.♘f3!

15.f4 ♗xd4 16.♗xd4 ♘xd4 17.♕xd4 O-O (17...♕f6 18.♕xf6 gxf6 19.♖xd5 ♗c6 20.♗b5±) 18.g5 ♕b6±

15...♕c7?!

15...♗c7

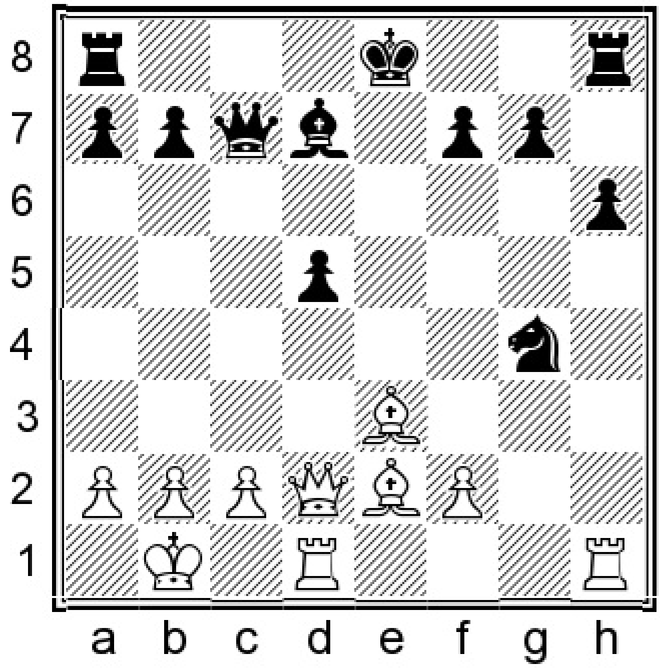
16.♘xe5 ♘xe5

16...♕xe5 17.g5±

17.♔b1

17.g5 O-O-O 18.gxh6 gxh6 19.♗xa7 ♗f5⩲; 17.♖h5! O-O-O (17...f6 18.g5±; 17...♖c8 18.c3±) 18.♕d4±

17...♘xg4?!



17...f6 18.g5! O-O-O (18...fxg5 19.♗xg5+-) 19.gxf6 gxf6 20.♗xa7+-; 17...O-O-O 18.♗xa7 ♖he8 19.♖he1±

18.♗f4!

18.♗d4 O-O-O! 19.♖h3±

18...♕c6 19.♕d4

19.♖de1

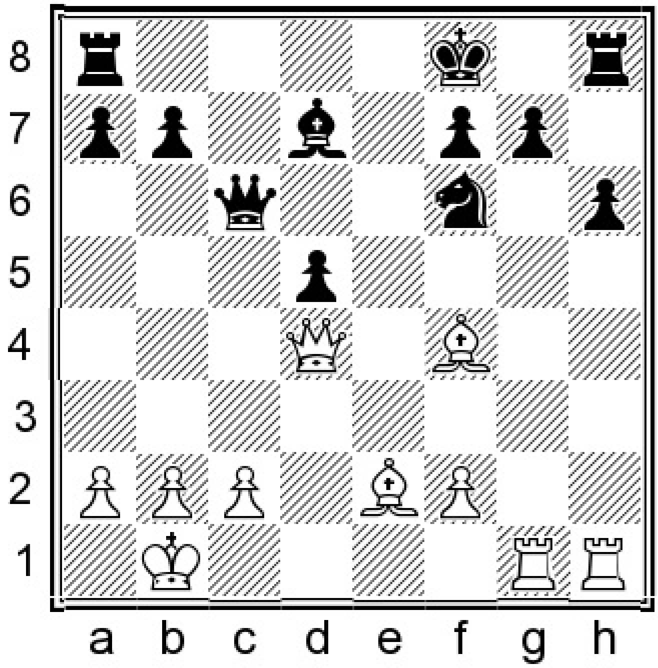
19...♘f6?!

19...♖c8 20.♕xg7 ♕f6 (20...♕xc2+ 21.♔a1 ♖h7 22.♕d4 ♕c5 (22...♕e4 23.♗xg4+-) 23.♕d2+-) 21.♕xf6 ♘xf6 22.♗e5 ♔e7 23.♖de1±; 19...h5 20.f3 (20.♔a1!? Δ c4) 20...♘f6 21.♗d3±

20.♖dg1?!

20.♗e5

20...♔f8?!



20...♕b6; 20...♗f5

21.♕b4+! ♔g8 22.♗xh6+- ♘e8?

22...g6 23.♗d3

23.♗xg7! ♘xg7 24.♕d4

24.♖xh8+ ♔xh8 25.♖h1+ ♔g8 26.♕h4 ♔f8 27.♕h8+ ♔e7 28.♕xa8

24...♗g4

24...♕g6 25.♖xh8+ ♔xh8 26.♖xg6 (26.♖h1+!?) 26...fxg6 27.♗d3

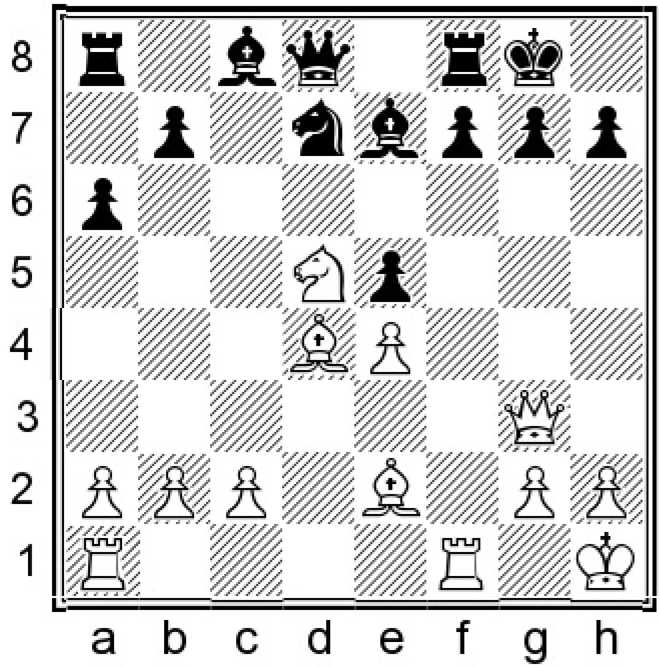
25.♖xh8+ ♔xh8 26.♖xg4 f6 27.♕f4 ♔g8 28.♕h6 ♕d7 29.♗f3 1-0

70. !N B85
Pichot, Alan (2630) - Maurizzi, Marc Andria (2503)
chess.com (Int.-m/3-rapid) 150/70, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 ♘c6 6.♗e2 d6 7.O-O ♗e7 8.♗e3 O-O 9.f4 ♕c7 10.♔h1 a6 11.♕e1 ♘xd4 12.♗xd4 e5?! 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.♕g3 ♘d7?!

14...♗d6 - 39/(306)

15.♘d5 ♕d8



15...♕d6 16.♗c3±

16.♗e3!N

16.♗xe5 ♘xe5 17.♕xe5 ♗d6 18.♕h5±; 16.♗c3

16...♗h4

16...♔h8!?

17.♕f3

17.♕g4!? ♘b8 (17...♘b6 18.♗xb6 ♗xg4 19.♗xd8 ♗xe2 20.♗xh4 ♗xf1 21.♖xf1+-) 18.♕h5 ♗e6 (18...♘d7 19.♖ad1 b5 20.♖f3+-; 18...♘c6 19.♘b6 g6 20.♕h6 ♘d4 21.♘xa8 ♘xe2 22.♖ad1+-) 19.♘b6 ♘d7 20.♘xa8 g6 21.♕f3 ♕xa8 22.♖ad1+-

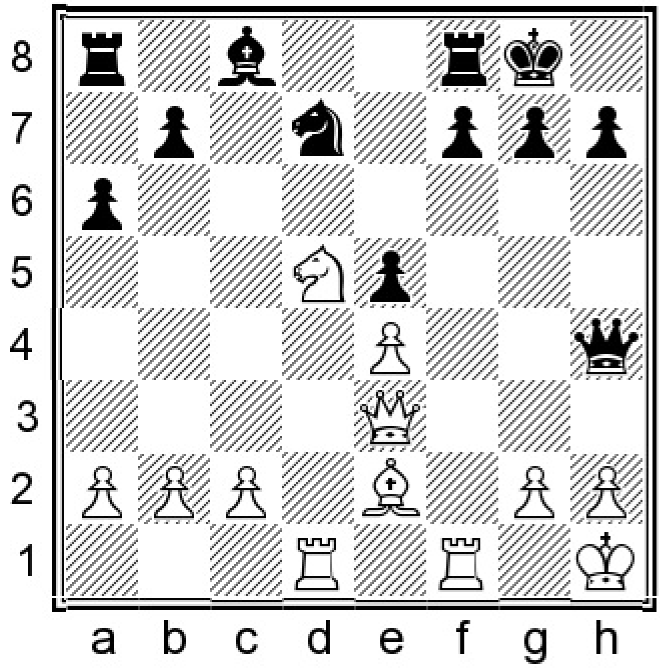
17...♗g5

17...♘f6 18.♗c5 ♘xd5 19.exd5 (19.♗xf8 ♘f6 20.♗b4 ♗e6±) 19...♗e7 20.d6 ♗f6 21.♗d3±

18.♖ad1

18.♗xg5 ♕xg5 19.♕a3±

18...♗xe3 19.♕xe3 ♕h4


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

⌓19...♔h8

20.♖f5

20.♕a3! Δ♕xe4 21.♗d3 ♕h4 22.♗f5+-

20...g6

20...♕d8

21.♖f2

21.♖f3

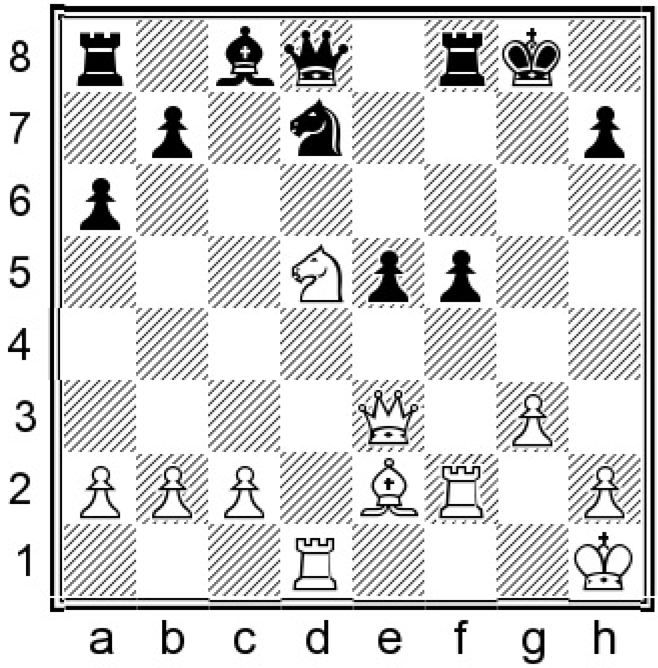
21...f5

21...♔g7!?

22.exf5 gxf5 23.g3

23.♖df1+-

23...♕d8



23...♕e4+ 24.♕xe4 fxe4 25.♔g1 ♖xf2 26.♔xf2 ♔f7 27.♔e3+-

24.♕a3

24.♗d3! ♘f6 (24...e4 25.♗c4+-) 25.♗xf5 ♘xd5 26.♕xe5 ♗xf5 27.♖xf5 ♖xf5 28.♕xf5+-

24...b5 25.♕d6 ♗b7

25...♔h8!?

26.♔g1+- ♖f7 27.♖xf5

27.♗h5!?

27...♖xf5 28.♘e7+ ♔h8 29.♘xf5 ♕b6+ 30.♕xb6 ♘xb6 31.b3 ♖c8 32.♘e3 ♗e4 33.♖d6

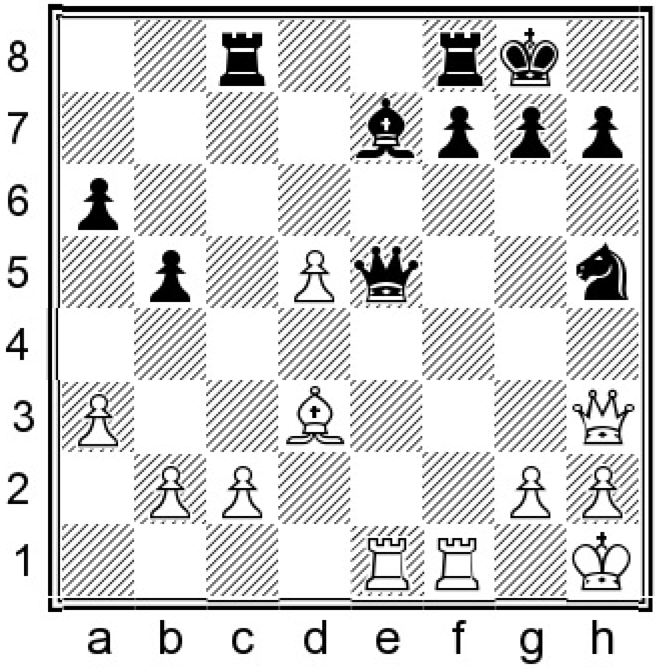
33.c4!?

33...♖c3 34.♔f2 ♘c8 35.♖xa6 ♘e7 36.♗xb5 ♘d5 37.♖a8+ ♔g7 38.♖a7+ ♔h8 39.♘xd5 ♖xc2+ 40.♔e3 ♗xd5 41.♖xh7+ ♔g8 42.♖d7 ♗h1 43.♗c4+ ♔h8 44.♖h7+ 1-0

71. B85
Valsecchi, Alessio (2527) - Chigaev, Maksim (2630)
Biel (open) 150/71, 2021

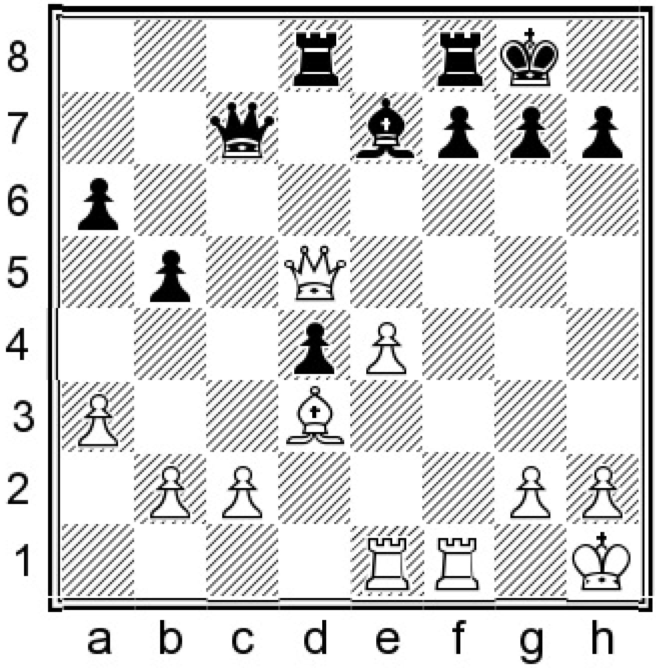
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗e2 e6 7.O-O ♗e7 8.f4 ♕c7 9.♗e3 O-O 10.♔h1 ♘c6 11.♕e1 ♘xd4 12.♗xd4 b5 13.a3 ♗b7 14.♕g3 ♗c6 15.♖ae1 ♖ac8 16.♗d3 e5 17.fxe5 ♘h5 18.♕h3 dxe5 19.♘d5 ♗xd5 20.♕xh5

20.♗xe5 ♕xe5 21.exd5



21...♕g5! (21...♕d6 - 25/509) 22.♖f5 (22.♗xh7+ ♔xh7 (22...♔h8 23.♗d3 g6 24.g4 ♕h4 25.♔g2 ♕g5=) 23.♖f5 ♕xf5 24.♕xf5+ g6 25.♕h3 ♖xc2 26.g4 ♗d6 27.gxh5 ♖xh2+ 28.♕xh2 ♗xh2 29.hxg6+ ♔xg6 30.♔xh2=) 22...♕h4 23.♕xh4 ♗xh4 24.♖xh5 ♗xe1 25.♗xh7+ ♔h8=

20...exd4 21.♕xd5 ♖cd8



22.♕f5N

22.♕h5 g6 23.♕e2 (23.♕h6!?) 23...♕e5 24.g3 h5 25.♕f3 ♗g5 26.♖e2?! ♔g7↑

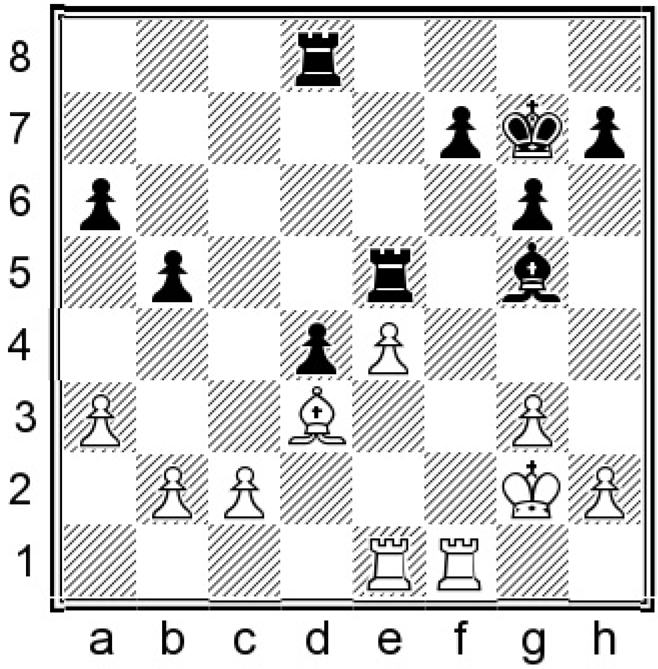
22...g6 23.♕f4

23.♕h3 ♗d6↑

23...♕xf4

23...♗d6 24.e5 ♗e7 25.h4↑; 23...♖d6 24.e5 ♖e6 25.♕xd4 ♖d8 26.♕e4 f5=∞

24.♖xf4 ♗g5= 25.♖ff1 ♔g7 26.g3 ♖fe8 27.♔g2 ♖e5

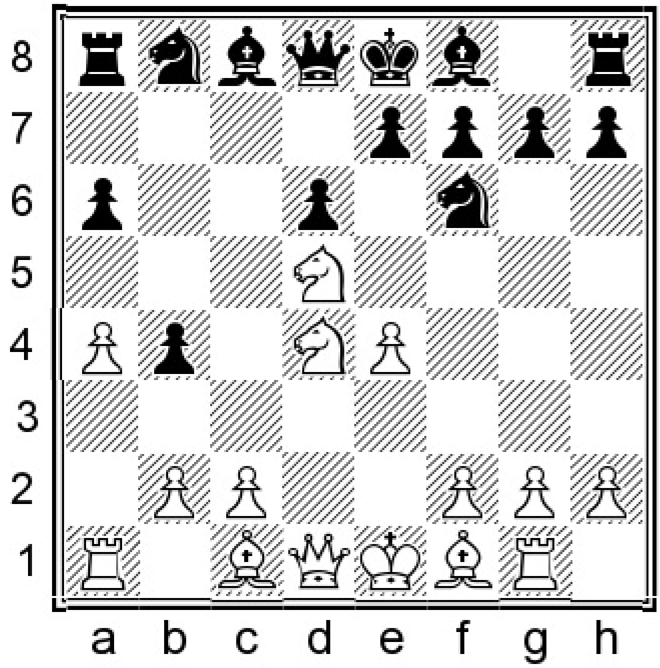


27...♖b8!?; 27...♖d6!?

28.a4! bxa4 29.♖a1 ♖b8 30.♖xa4 ♖xb2 31.♖xa6 ♖b7 1/2-1/2

72. B90
Ivic, Velimir (2606) - Cheparinov, Ivan (2659)
Riga 150/72, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♖g1 b5 7.a4 b4 8.♘d5



8...♘xd5N

8...♘xe4 - 147/67

9.exd5 ♗b7

9...g6 10.b3 ♗g7 11.♗b2 O-O 12.♕d2 ♗b7 13.O-O-O ♗xd5 (13...♕c7 14.g4⩲) 14.♘f5 ♗xb2+ 15.♔xb2 ♗e6 (15...e6 16.♘e3 ♕f6+ 17.♔b1 ♘d7 18.♘xd5 exd5 19.f3⩲) 16.g4⩲

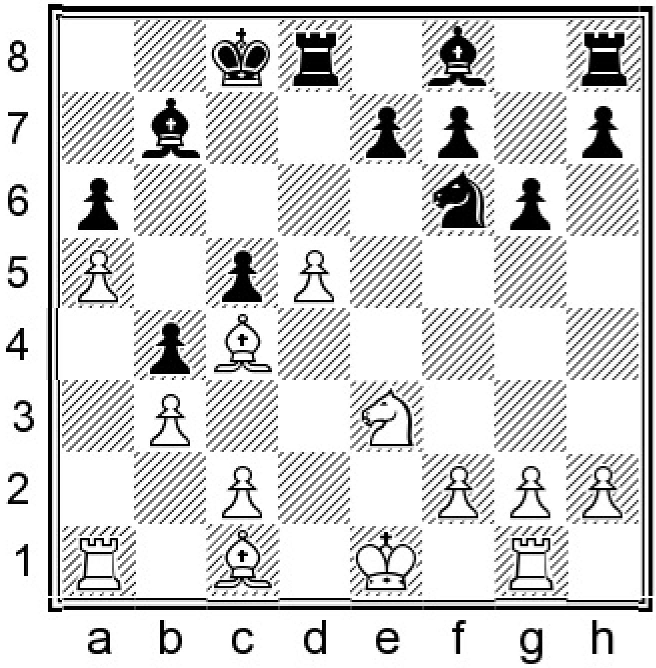
10.♘f5 ♕c7 11.♘e3 ♘d7 12.a5 ♘f6 13.♕d4 ♕c5

13...e6 14.dxe6 fxe6 15.♗d2 d5 16.♗xb4 ♗xb4+ 17.♕xb4 ♖b8 18.♕a3 ♗c6⯹

14.♕xc5 dxc5 15.♗c4 O-O-O 16.b3

16.c3 bxc3 17.bxc3 e6! 18.dxe6 fxe6 19.♗xe6+ ♔c7 20.f3 ♗d6∞

16...g6



⌓16...♖d6 17.♘f5 (17.♗b2 ♘xd5 18.♗e5 ♖e6 19.♗g3 ♖e4 20.O-O-O ♘c3 21.♖de1 g6 22.♗xf7 (22.♗d3 ♖xe3 (22...♖e6 23.♗c4 ♖e4=) 23.fxe3 ♗g7=∞) 22...♗h6∞) 17...♖d7 18.♘e3 ♖d6=

17.g4! ♘e4

17...♘xd5 18.♘xd5 ♗xd5 19.♗xa6+ ♔b8 20.♗b2 ♖g8 21.♗e5+ ♔a7 22.♗b5±

18.♗b2 ♗h6?!

18...♖g8 19.♖f1 ♗g7 20.♗xg7 ♖xg7 21.O-O-O ♘c3 22.♖d2±

19.♗xh8 ♖xh8 20.♖d1 ♗f4

20...♗g5 21.♗e2 ♗h4 22.♖g2 ♔c7 23.♗f3 ♘d6 (23...♘g5? 24.d6+ exd6 25.♗xb7 ♔xb7 26.♖xd6+-) 24.♔f1±

21.h4± ♗e5 22.f3

22.h5 ♔d7 23.♔f1 ♗d4 24.g5±

22...♘c3 23.♖d3 h5?!

23...♔c7 24.h5 ♔d6 25.♖h1 ♖f8 26.hxg6 hxg6 27.♖h7±

24.gxh5 ♖xh5 25.♖g5! ♖xg5 26.hxg5 ♗d4

26...♗f4 27.♘d1 ♘xd1 28.♖xd1 ♗xg5 29.♔e2 ♔d7 30.♖h1+-

27.f4

27.d6! e6 (27...exd6 28.♗xf7 ♗xf3 29.♗xg6+-) 28.♖xd4! cxd4 29.♘g4 ♔d7 30.♘e5+ ♔xd6 31.♘xf7+ ♔c7 32.♘e5+-

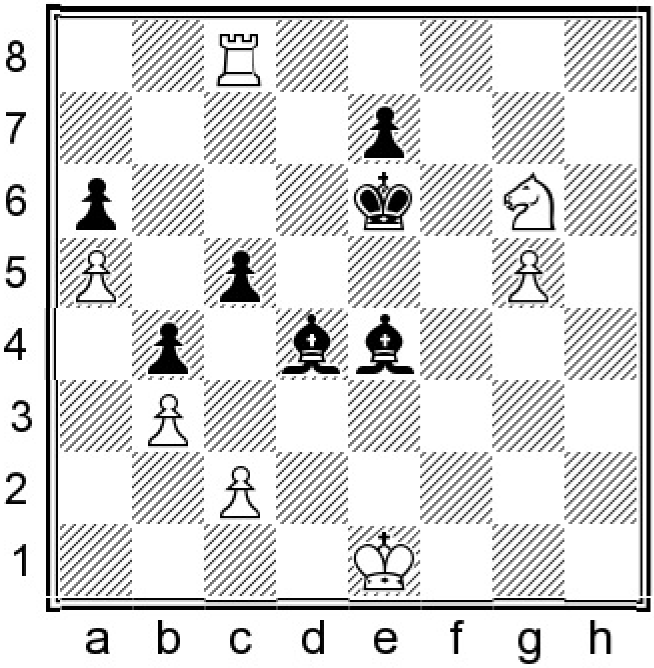
27...♔d7 28.♘g4

28.f5! ♔d6 29.♘g4 ♘xd5 30.♘h6+-

28...♘xd5 29.♘e5+ ♔c7 30.♗xd5 ♗xd5 31.♖h3 ♔d6

31...♗xe5 32.fxe5 ♔c6 33.♖h8 ♔b5 34.♖d8 ♗e6 35.♔d2 ♔xa5 36.♖b8+-

32.♖h8 ♔e6 33.♖c8 f6 34.♘xg6 fxg5 35.fxg5 ♗e4



36.♘f8+! ♔f5 37.♔d2+- ♗d5 38.♘d7 ♗e6 39.♖c7 c4 40.bxc4 ♔xg5 41.♘b8 ♗c3+ 42.♔c1 1-0

73. * B90
Tari, Aryan (2642) - Firouzja, Alireza (2754)
Stavanger 150/73, 2021

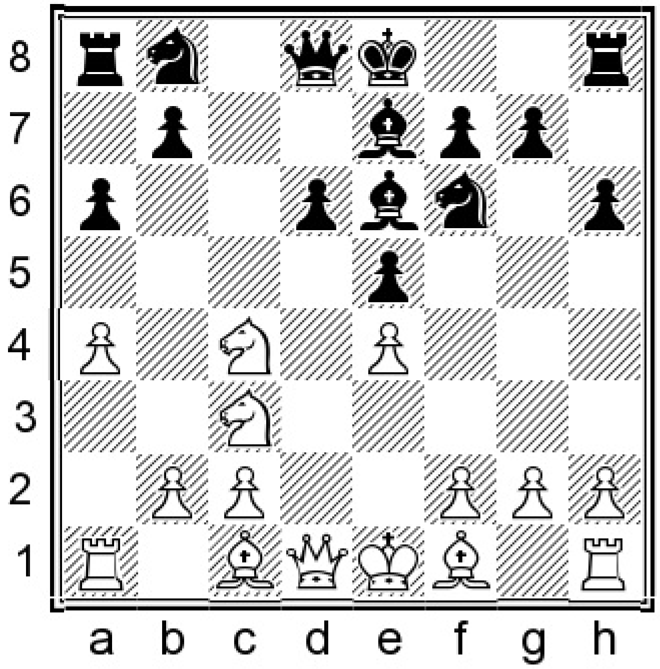
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.a4 e5 7.♘f3 h6 8.♘d2

8.g3 - 148/83

8...♗e6

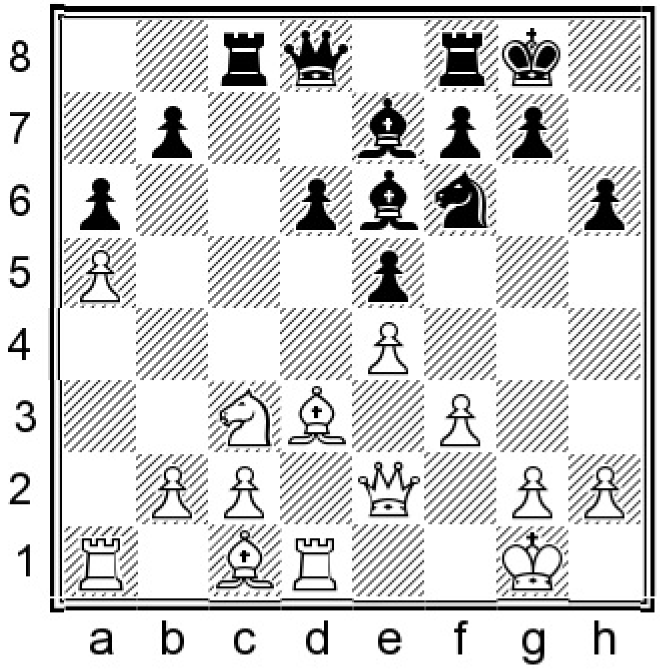
8...♕c7

9.♘c4 ♗e7



10.♘d5N

10.♘e3 - 150/(73) 10...O-O 11.♗d3 ♘bd7 12.f3 ♖c8 13.O-O ♘b6 14.a5 ♘c4 15.♘xc4 ♗xc4 16.♕e2 ♗e6 (16...♕c7 17.♗xc4 ♕xc4 18.♕xc4 ♖xc4 19.♖d1 ♖fc8=) 17.♖d1



17...♖c6 (17...♘h5 18.g3 (18.♕f2 ♗g5=) 18...♘f6 19.♔g2 ♕c7=) 18.♗e3 ♕c8 19.♗f2 ♖e8 20.♕e1 ♗d8 21.♔h1 d5 22.exd5 ♘xd5 23.♗e4 ♘xc3 24.♗xc6 ♘xd1 25.♗xe8 ♘xb2 26.♕b4 ♘c4 27.♕c5 ♕xc5 28.♗xc5 ♗xa5=∞ Perry,W-Fuzishawa,R corr 150/(73) 2021

10...♘xd5

10...♘xe4!? 11.♗e3 (11.♘cb6 ♗xd5 12.♘xd5 ♘f6∓) 11...O-O 12.♘cb6 ♖a7 13.♘xe7+ ♕xe7 14.♘d5

♗xd5 15.♗xa7 ♗c6 16.♗d3 (16.♗e2 ♘d7⯹) 16...♘d7 17.♗xe4 ♗xe4 18.O-O ♖c8 19.♖c1 ♗c6⯹

11.exd5 ♗f5 12.a5 ♘d7 13.♗e2 O-O 14.O-O ♕c7

14...♗g6 15.♗e3 f5 16.f4 ♖c8 17.fxe5 dxe5 18.d6 ♗g5 19.♗xg5 ♕xg5 20.♕d5+ ♗f7 21.♕xb7 ♘f6 22.♕xa6 ♗d5 23.g3 ♔h8⯹

15.♗e3 ♗h7 16.♖a3 ♖ac8 17.♔h1

17.♖c3 ♕d8 18.♖b3 ♕c7 19.c3 f5∞

17...f5

17...♗g5 18.♗xg5 hxg5 19.♕d2 ♕d8 20.♕b4 ♘c5∞

18.f4 ♗f6

⌓18...exf4 19.♗xf4 ♘f6 20.♖b3 ♘e4 21.♖b6 ♖cd8∞

19.b4

19.♖c3!? ♕b8 (19...exf4? 20.♗xf4 ♗xc3 21.♗xd6 ♕d8 22.♗xf8 ♗xb2 23.♗b4±; 19...e4 20.♗d4±) 20.♖b3 ♕c7 21.♗d2±

19...♖ce8 20.♕d2 ♖e7 21.fxe5 ♘xe5 22.♘b6

22.♘xe5 ♖xe5 23.♗b6 ♕e7 24.♗f3 ♖e8 25.c4 ♖e1 26.♖g1 g5∞

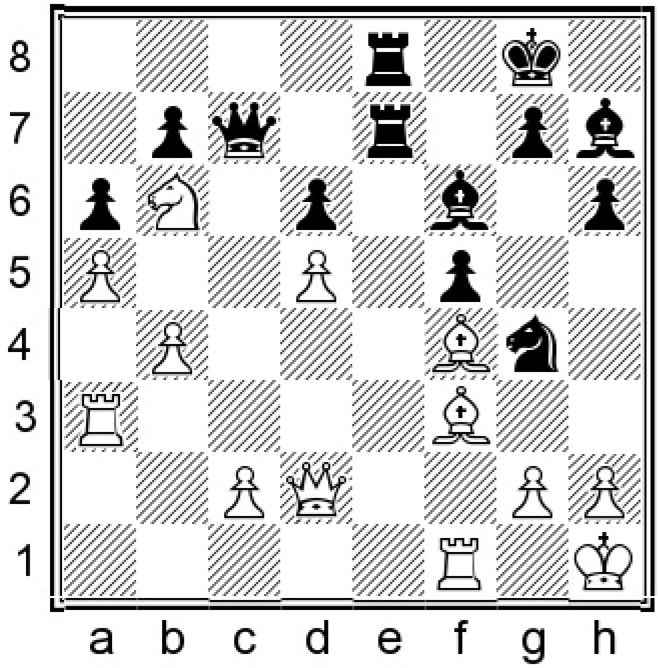
22...♘g4

22...♖fe8 23.h3 ♘f7 24.♗h5 g6 25.♗f3 ♘g5∞

23.♗f4?

23.h3 ♘xe3 24.♖xe3 ♗g5 25.♖xe7 ♕xe7 26.♕d1 ♖e8 27.♗d3 ♕e3=

23...♖fe8 24.♗f3



24...g5! 25.♗xg4 fxg4 26.♗e3 ♖f7 27.c4 ♗b2!-+ 28.♖xf7 ♕xf7 29.♕xb2 ♕f1+ 30.♗g1 ♖e2 31.♕xe2 ♕xe2 32.♖e3 ♕c2 33.c5 ♗e4 34.♖g3 dxc5

34...h5 35.cxd6 ♔f7 36.d7 ♔e7-+

35.d6 cxb4 36.d7 ♕d2 37.♖xg4 ♗c6 38.♗d4 ♗xd7 39.♘xd7 b3 40.h3 b2 41.♗xb2 ♕xb2 42.♔h2 ♕c3 43.♖g3 ♕xa5 44.♘f6+ ♔f7 45.♘g4 ♔g7 46.♖d3 ♕c7+ 47.♔h1 a5 48.♘e3 a4 49.♘f5+ ♔g6 50.g4 ♕c1+ 0-1

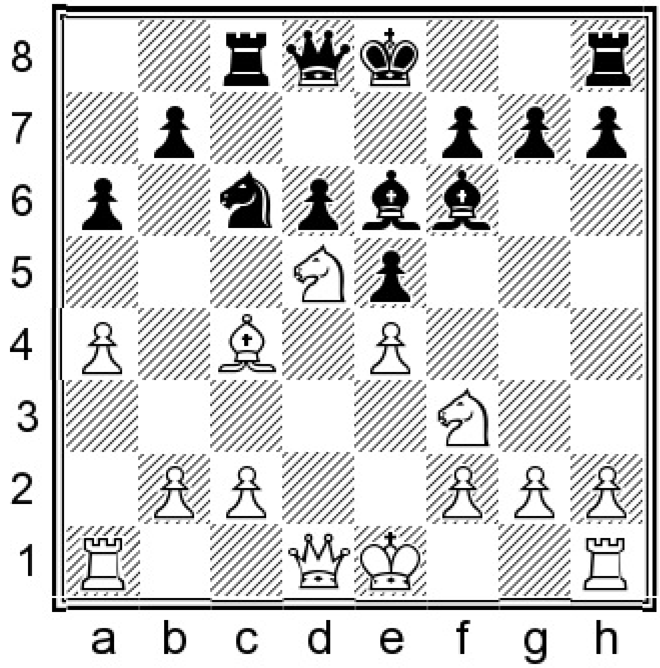
74. ** B90
Tari, Aryan (2642) - Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2792)
Stavanger 150/74, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.a4 e5 7.♘f3 ♗e7 8.♗g5 ♗e6 9.♗xf6 ♗xf6 10.♘d5 ♘c6

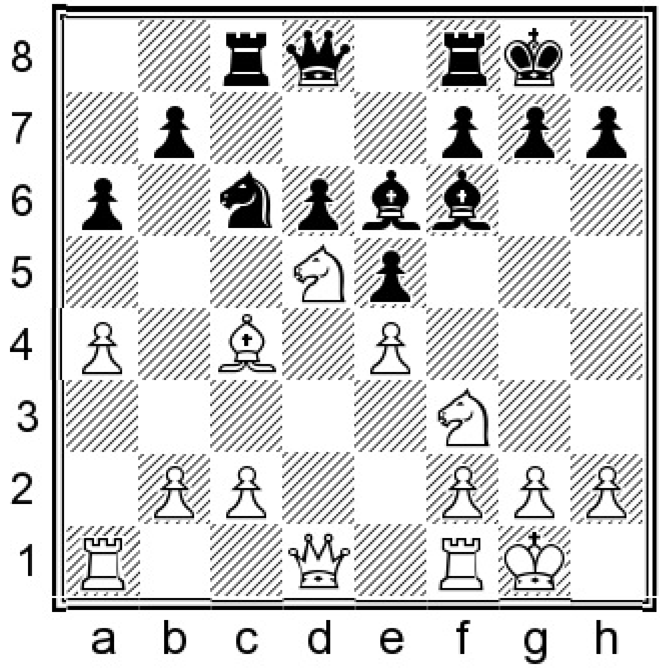
10...♘d7 - 147/70

11.♗c4 ♘e7

11...♖c8



12.O-O - 150/(74) (12.♘e3N ♘d4 13.♗xe6 fxe6 14.c3 (14.♘d2 ♕e7 15.c3 ♘c6 16.♕h5+ g6 17.♕e2 ♖d8 18.O-O O-O 19.♘f3 d5∞) 14...♘xf3+ 15.♕xf3 O-O 16.O-O ♗g5 17.♕e2 ♕b6= 18.a5 ♕c5 19.♘c2 ♗d8 20.♘e3 ♗g5 21.♘c2 ♗d8 22.♘e3 ♗g5 1/2 (22) Lupulescu,C (2624)-Wojtaszek,R (2700) Terme Catez 150/ (74) 2021) 12...O-O

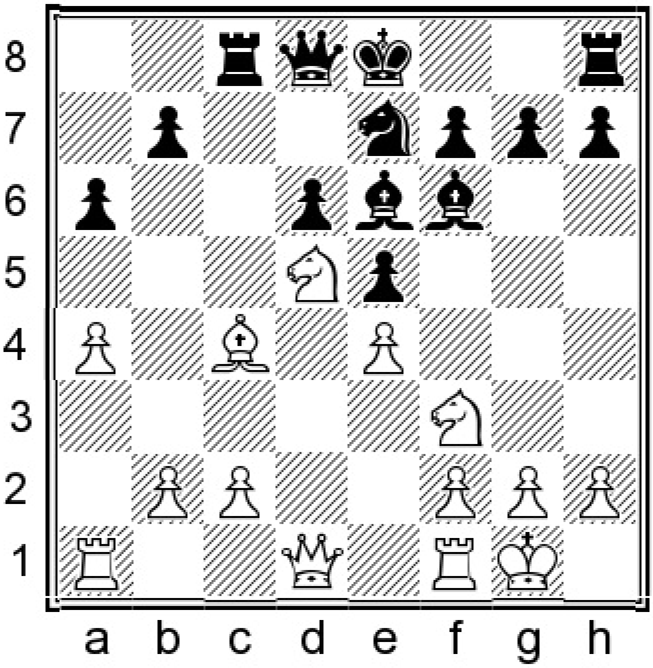


13.b3N (13.♗a2) 13...♔h8 14.♘e3 g6 (14...♘d4!? 15.c3 (15.♘xd4 exd4 16.♘d5 d3 17.♘xf6 (17.♖a2 dxc2 18.♖xc2 b5! 19.axb5 axb5 20.♘xf6 (20.♗xb5 ♖xc2 21.♕xc2 ♗xd5 22.exd5 ♕a5 23.♗c4 g6=) 20...bxc4 21.♘d5 cxb3 22.♖xc8 ♕xc8 23.♕xb3 ♖e8=) 17...dxc2 18.♕xc2 ♕xf6=) 15...♘xf3+ 16.♕xf3 b5 17.axb5 axb5 18.♗xe6 fxe6=) 15.♕d2 ♗g7 16.♖ad1 ♘d4 17.♘xd4 exd4 18.♘d5 f5 19.f3 ♖c5 20.g3 ♗e5∞ Druska,J (2506)-Donchenko,A (2648) Polska 150/(74) 2021

12.O-O

12.♘xf6+ gxf6 13.♗xe6 fxe6 14.O-O ♕c7 15.♖a3 d5 16.♖c3 ♕d7∞

12...♖c8



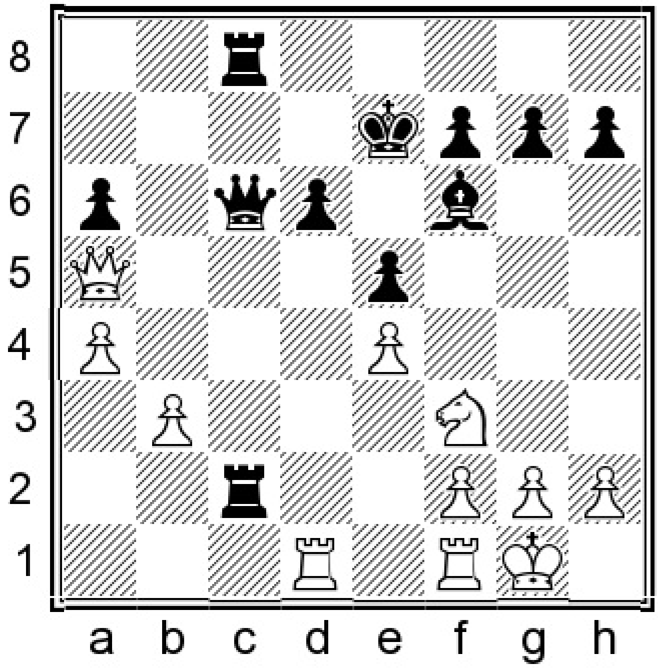
13.♕d3N

13.b3 ♘xd5 14.♗xd5 ♗xd5 15.♕xd5 ♖xc2 16.♕xb7 ♕c8 17.♕xc8+ ♖xc8 18.♘d2 ♔d7=

13...♘xd5 14.♗xd5 ♗xd5 15.♕xd5 ♖xc2 16.♕xb7 ♕c8 17.♕d5

17.♕b6 O-O 18.b4 ♕a8 19.♕xd6 ♖d8 20.♕b6 ♖b8 21.♕d6 ♖d8=

17...♕c6 18.♖ad1 ♔e7 19.b3 ♖c8 20.♕a5



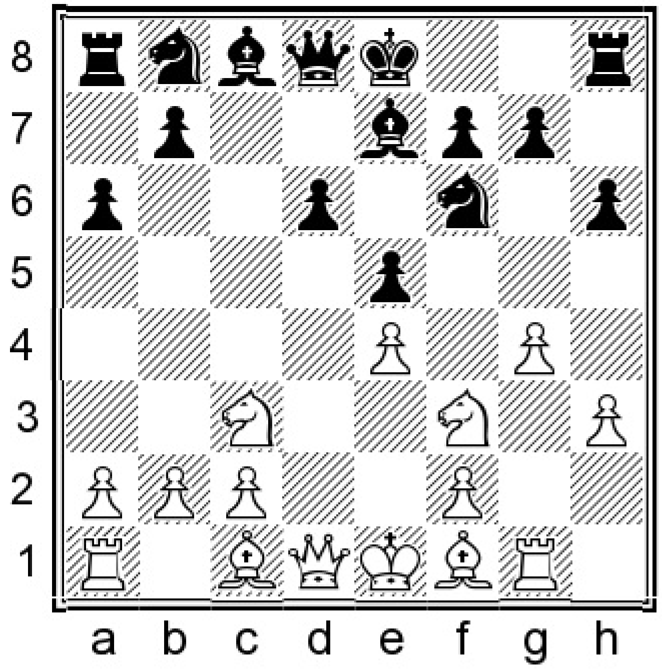
20...♖b8

20...♕b7! 21.♕d5 ♕xd5 22.♖xd5 ♖8c3 (22...♔e6 23.♘d2 ♖8c3 24.♘c4 ♗e7 25.♘e3 ♖e2 26.♖b1 g6 27.g3 ♗d8∓) 23.♖fd1 ♖c1 24.♖xd6 ♖xd1+ 25.♖xd1 ♖xb3∓

21.♖d3 ♔f8 22.♕e1 ♖b2 23.♕d1 ♕xe4 24.♖xd6 ♕b4= 25.♕d5 ♕xb3 26.♘xe5 ♗xe5 27.♖d8+ ♔e7 28.♕xe5+ ♔xd8 29.♕d6+ ♔c8 30.♕c6+ ♔d8 31.♕d6+ ♔c8 32.♕c6+ 1/2-1/2

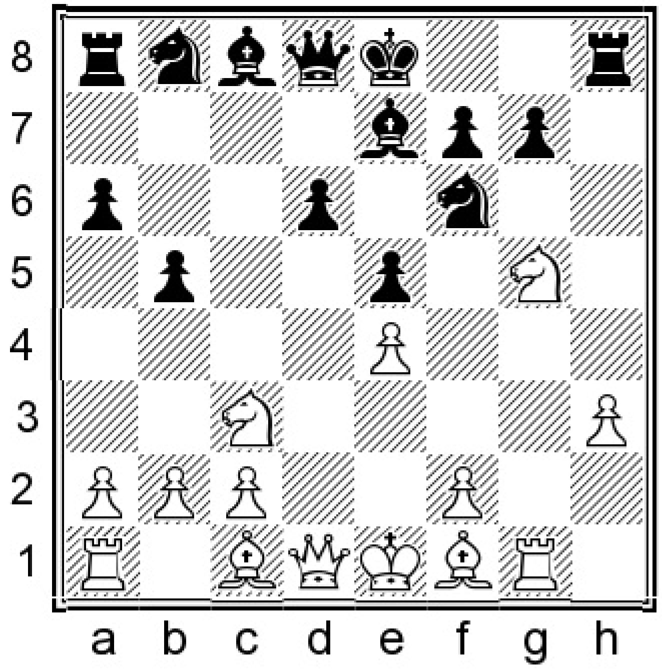
75. ** B90
Karjakin, Sergey (2758) - Firouzja, Alireza (2754)
Stavanger 150/75, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.h3 e5 7.♘f3 ♗e7 8.g4 h6 9.♖g1

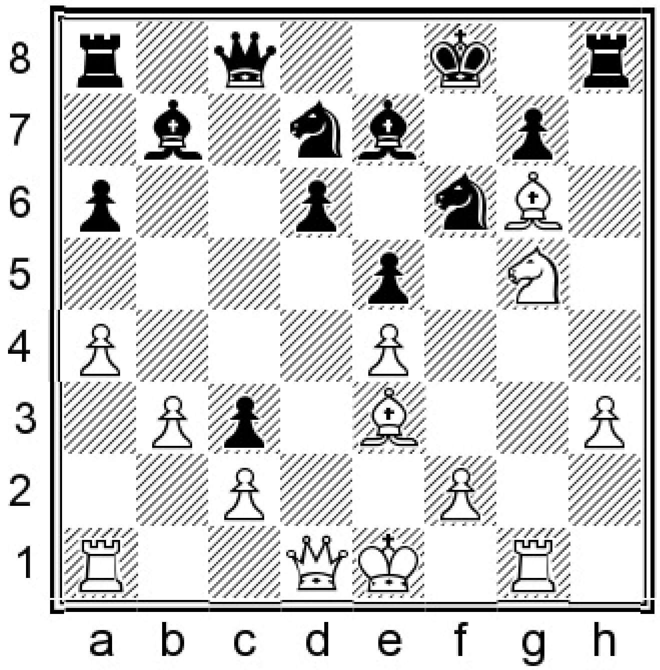


9...♕c7N

9...b5 - 150/(75) 10.g5 hxg5 11.♘xg5



11...♗b7 - 150/(75) (11...♕a5N 12.♗d2 b4 13.♘e2 ♘c6 14.♘g3 Karjakin,S (2743) -Sasikiran,K (2640) ChessSuperLeague (Int.-rapid) 150/(75) 2021 (14.♘g3 ♘d4 15.♗d3 ♕c5 16.a3 bxa3 17.♖xa3 ♔f8 18.♗e3 ♕c7∞)) 12.♗e3 (12.a3 ♘bd7 13.♕f3 ♖c8 14.♗d2 ♕c7∞) 12...♘bd7 13.a4 b4 14.♗c4 (14.♘d5 ♘xd5 15.exd5 ♕c7∓) 14...♖f8 (14...bxc3! 15.♗xf7+ (15.♘xf7? ♕c7-+) 15...♔f8= 16.♗g6 (16.♘e6+? ♔xf7 17.♘xd8+ ♖axd8 18.bxc3 ♗xe4-+; 16.♗a2 ♔e8 (16...cxb2 17.♘e6+ ♔e8 18.♘xg7+ ♔f8 19.♘e6+ ♔e8=) 17.♗f7+ ♔f8=) 16...♕c8= 17.b3



(17.♗f5 ♔e8 18.♗g6+ ♔f8=) 17...♖h4! 18.♕f3 ♘c5 19.♗xc5 ♖f4! 20.♕d3 dxc5∞) 15.♘d5± Pfatteicher,L (2212)-Papadiamandis, E (2404) Baden Baden 150/(75) 2021; 9...♘bd7; 9...♘c6

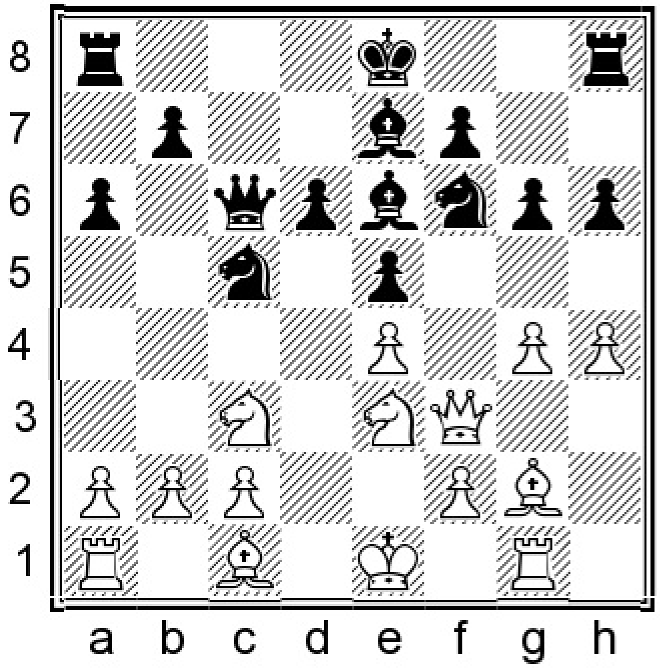
10.♘h4

10.g5 hxg5 11.♘xg5 ♘c6 12.♗c4 ♘d8 13.♗b3 ♘e6∞ - 148/75

10...g6 11.♘g2 ♗e6 12.♘e3 ♘bd7 13.h4

13.♕f3 b5 14.h4 ♘b6 15.h5 g5 16.♗d3 O-O 17.♗d2 ♖ab8∞

13...♕c6 14.♕f3 ♘c5 15.♗g2



15...♘a4! 16.♘ed5?

16.♘cd5 ♗xd5 17.exd5 ♕c5 18.♕e2 ♘d7 19.h5 ♗g5∓

16...♘xc3 17.♘xf6+

17.♘xc3 ♘xg4-+

17...♗xf6 18.♕xf6 ♔d7!

18...♖h7 19.♗e3 ♘a4-+ (19...♘xe4 20.♗xe4 ♕xe4 21.♖d1 ♔d7∓)

19.g5

19.♗e3 ♘a4-+

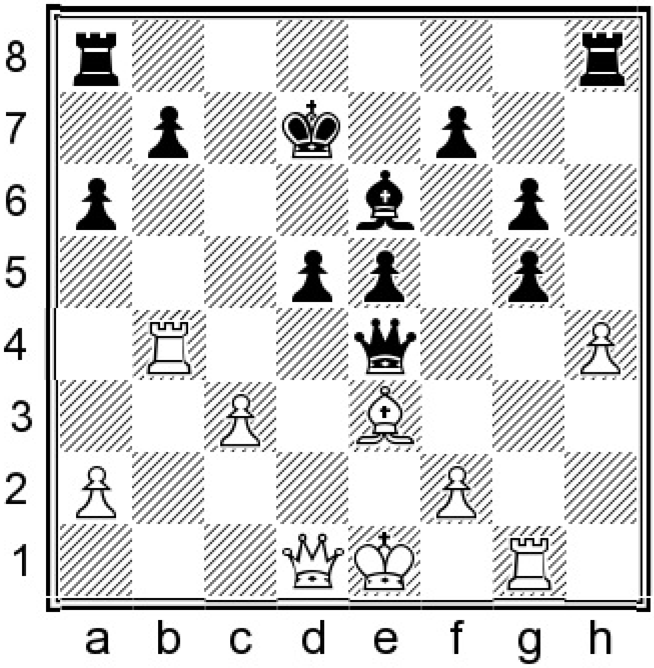
19...♘xe4

19...♕c4! 20.♕f3 ♘xa2 21.♕e2 ♕xe2+ 22.♔xe2 ♘xc1+ 23.♖axc1 a5-+

20.♕f3 d5 21.♕d1 ♕b6 22.♗e3

22.♕e2 hxg5 23.♗xe4 ♕b4+ 24.♗d2 ♕xe4 25.♕xe4 dxe4 26.hxg5 ♗g4!∓

22...♕xb2 23.♗xe4 ♕b4+ 24.c3 ♕xe4 25.♖b1 hxg5 26.♖b4



26...d4! 27.cxd4 ♔e8-+ 28.hxg5 ♖h3 29.♔d2 ♗f5 30.♕b3 ♖c8 31.♖c1 ♖xc1 32.♔xc1 ♖h1+ 33.♔d2 b5 34.d5 ♕f3 0-1

76. * B90
Vokhidov, Shamsiddin (2521) - Zhou, Jianchao (2629)
Riga 150/76, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.h3 e5 7.♘b3 ♗e6 8.f4 b5 9.f5 ♗c8 10.♗g5

10.g4 - 142/74

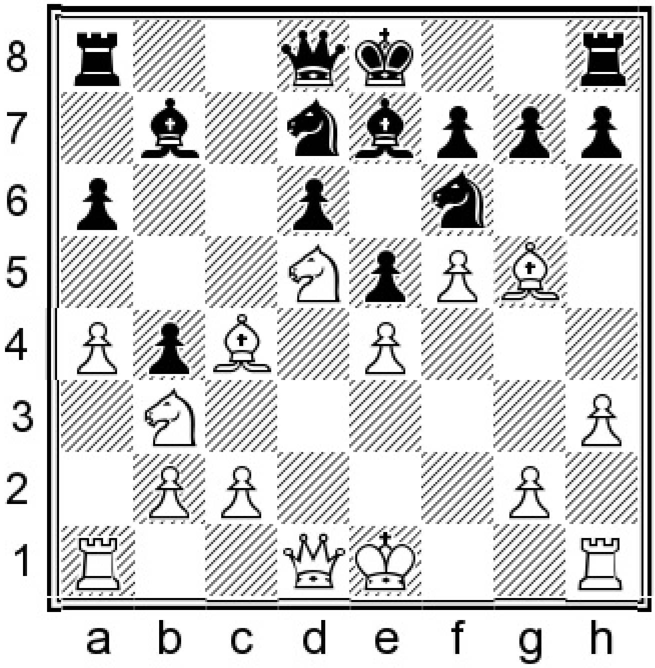
10...♘bd7

10...♗b7 11.♕f3 ♘bd7 12.O-O-O ♗e7 13.♔b1 ♖c8 14.♗xf6 ♘xf6∞

11.a4 b4 12.♘d5 ♗b7 13.♗c4

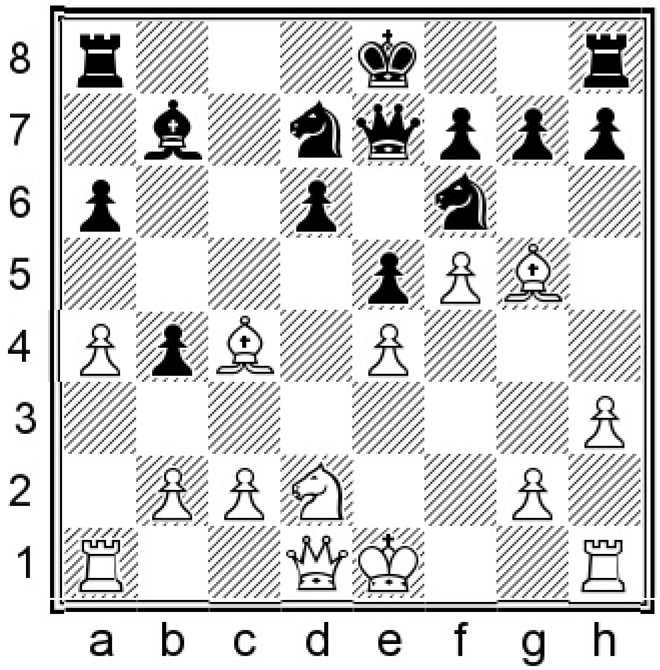
13.♕f3 ♗e7 14.♗xf6 ♘xf6 15.O-O-O (15.♘xf6+ ♗xf6 16.O-O-O ♖c8 17.♔b1 O-O=) 15...♘xd5 16.exd5 ♗c8 17.♔b1 ♗d7∞

13...♗e7



14.♗xf6N

14.♘xe7 - 150/(76) 14...♕xe7 15.♘d2



(15.♕e2 ♗xe4 16.♗xa6 ♗xg2 17.♖g1 ♗c6 18.♗b5 ♗xb5 19.♕xb5 O-O=) 15...h6N (15...O-O 16.♕e2 ♖fc8 17.O-O-O a5=) 16.♗h4 d5! 17.♗xd5 (17.exd5 ♘b6 18.♕f3 ♘xc4 19.♘xc4 ♕c5 20.♘xe5 ♘xd5⩱) 17...♗xd5 18.exd5 ♕c5 19.♗f2 ♕c7 (19...♕xd5 20.♕f3 ♕xf3 21.gxf3 O-O 22.O-O-O±) 20.d6 ♕xd6 21.O-O ♕c7 22.b3 O-O 23.♘c4 ♘e4 24.♕d5 ♘xf2 25.♖xf2 ♖ad8 26.♖e1 ♕a7 27.♕d6 a5 28.♕d5 ♖a8 29.♕f3 f6= Biedermann, T-Chocenka,D corr 150/(76) 2021

14...♘xf6 15.♕d3

15.♘xf6+ ♗xf6 16.♕f3 ♗h4+ 17.g3 ♗g5 18.h4 ♗h6∞

15...♘xd5 16.exd5

16.♗xd5 ♗xd5 17.exd5 (17.♕xd5 ♗h4+ 18.♔e2 O-O∓) 17...♗g5 18.O-O ♕b6+ 19.♔h1 O-O 20.♘d2 ♗xd2 21.♕xd2 f6∓

16...♗h4+

⌓16...♗g5 17.O-O g6 18.a5 ♗c8 19.♔h1 O-O 20.fxg6 hxg6∓

17.g3 ♗g5 18.h4 ♗h6 19.a5?!

19.♘d2 ♗c8 20.g4 ♗f4 21.O-O-O h5∞

19...O-O 20.♕e4 ♖c8 21.♖h2 ♕c7 22.♗d3 f6! 23.♖d1

23.♖a4 ♕f7 24.♗c4 g6 25.fxg6 hxg6 26.♖xb4 f5 27.♕e2 f4∓

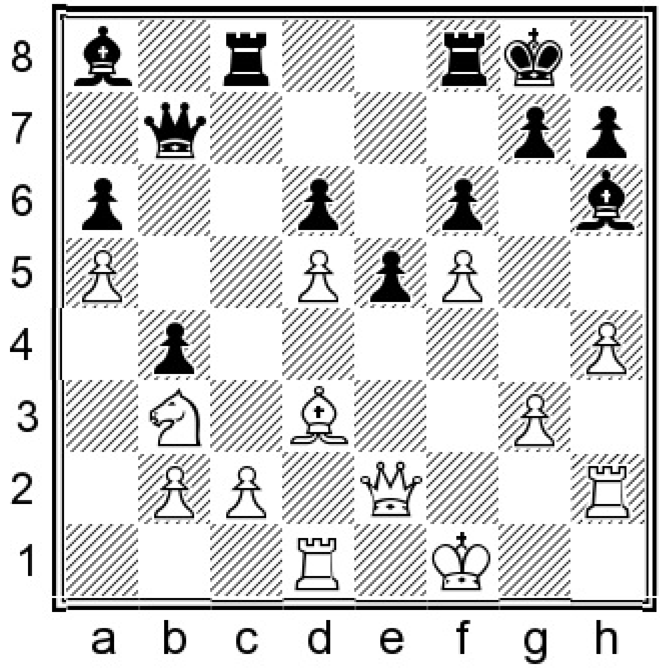
23...♗a8

23...♔h8 24.♕f3 ♖ce8 25.h5 ♕f7 26.♗e4 ♖c8∓

24.♔f1

24.♗xa6 ♕a7 25.♗f1 g6 26.♖f2 gxf5 27.♖xf5 ♖c7∞

24...♕b7 25.♕e2



25.♖f2 ♔h8 26.g4 ♗f4∓

25...♕xd5! 26.♗xa6 ♕c6 27.♗xc8 ♖xc8 28.♔g1

28.a6 d5 29.a7 ♔h8 30.♖a1 d4∓

28...d5 29.a6 d4 30.♘a5?

30.♖g2 ♕d5 31.♔h2 ♗e3 32.♘c1 h6∓

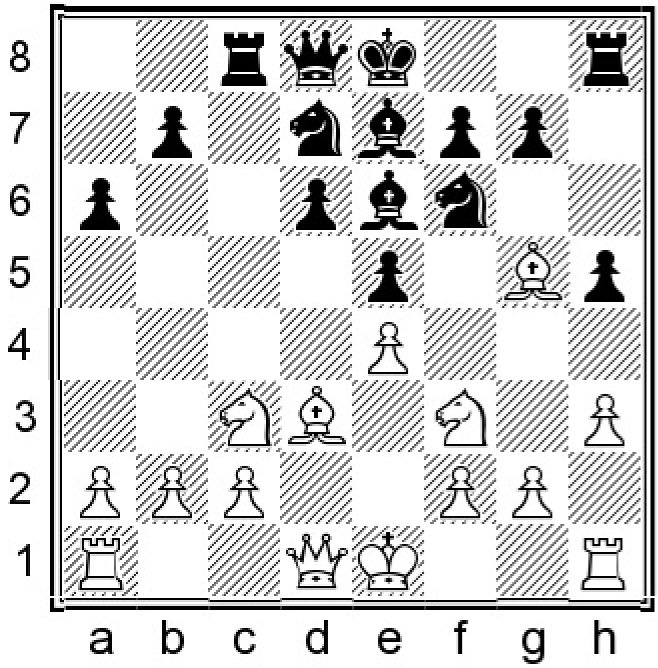
30...♕b6-+ 31.♘c4 ♕c5 0-1

77. B90
Grischuk, Alexander (2775) - Donchenko, Alexander (2641)
Struga 150/77, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.h3 e5 7.♘de2 h5 8.♗g5 ♗e6 9.♘g1!?

9.♗xf6 - 148/77

9...♘bd7 10.♘f3 ♖c8 11.♗d3 ♗e7



12.♗e3N

12.♕e2 ♘c5 13.O-O ♘h7 14.♗e3 g5∞

12...d5 13.exd5 ♗xd5

13...♘xd5 14.♘xd5 ♗xd5 15.♗f5 ♗c6 16.O-O (16.♕d3 ♗b5 17.♕e4 ♗c6 18.♗xd7+ ♕xd7 19.♕xe5 ♗xf3 20.gxf3 f6 21.♕e4 f5 22.♕e5 ♖xc2 23.O-O ♔f7 24.♖ad1 ♕e6=) 16...♕c7 17.♖e1 ♖d8=

14.♘xd5

14.♗f5 ♗c6 15.O-O O-O 16.♕e2 g6 17.♗xd7 ♘xd7 18.♖ad1 ♕a5∞

14...♘xd5 15.♗d2 ♘b4?!

15...♘c5 16.♗f5 (16.♘xe5 ♗f6 17.♕e2 O-O 18.O-O (18.♕xh5? ♘xd3+ 19.♘xd3 ♖e8+ 20.♔f1 ♖xc2-+) 18...♘xd3 (18...♖e8 19.♗h7+ ♔xh7 20.♕xh5+ ♔g8 21.♕xf7+ ♔h7 22.♕h5+ ♔g8=) 19.♘xd3 (19.cxd3 ♖c2∓) 19...♖xc2 20.♖fd1 ♕e8=) 16...♖c6 17.♕e2 (17.♘xe5? ♖f6 18.g4 (18.♗d3 ♖e6-+) 18...g6-+) 17...e4 (17...g6 18.♘xe5 ♖f6 19.♗d3 ♘xd3+ 20.♕xd3 ♕d6 21.♘c4 ♕e6+ 22.♕e2 O-O 23.♕xe6 ♖xe6+ 24.♘e3 ♗c5 25.O-O ♘xe3 26.fxe3 ♗xe3+ 27.♗xe3 ♖xe3=) 18.♘e5 ♖f6 19.♗xe4 ♖e6 20.♗f5 ♖f6 21.♗e4 ♖e6=

16.♗xb4 ♗xb4+ 17.c3 ♗e7 18.♗f5

18.♕e2 g6 19.O-O-O ♗f6 20.♗c2 ♕e7 21.♔b1 O-O 22.g4 hxg4 23.hxg4±

18...♗f6

⌓18...♖c5 19.♕d2 (19.♕e2 ♘f6 20.O-O (20.♘xe5 ♕c7 21.f4 ♖xc3 22.O-O ♖c5=) 20...♕c7 21.♗c2 O-O 22.♖ad1 g6 23.♖fe1 ♖e8=) 19...g6 20.♗c2 ♘f6 21.♕xd8+ ♗xd8 22.O-O-O O-O 23.♖he1 ♗c7 24.♘g5±

19.♕e2 ♖c7 20.O-O-O O-O 21.g4 ♕e7

21...hxg4 22.hxg4 g6 23.♘d2! ♕e7 (23...gxf5? 24.gxf5 ♖e8 25.♘e4+-) 24.♘e4 ♗g7 25.♗xd7 ♖xd7 26.♖xd7 ♕xd7 27.♖d1 ♕e7 28.g5±

22.♔b1 ♘c5 23.g5

23.♗c2 hxg4 24.hxg4 g6 25.♕e3 e4 26.♘d2±

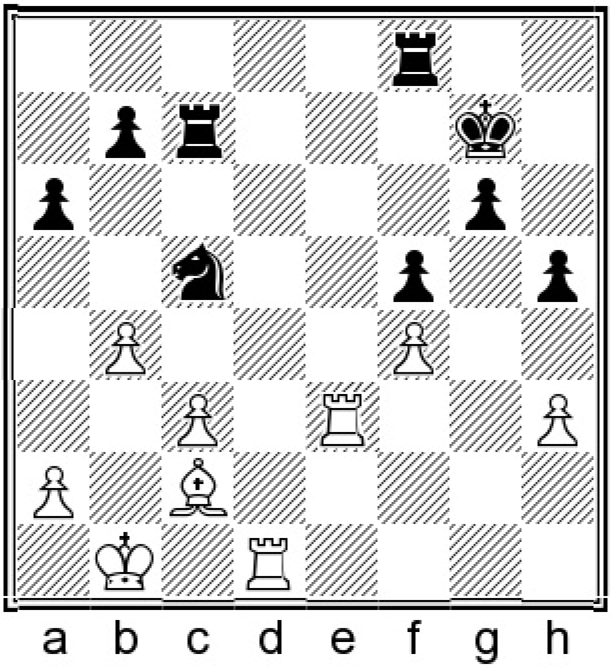
23...♗xg5 24.♘xg5 ♕xg5 25.♕xe5 ♕e7 26.♖he1

26.♕g3 ♖c6 (26...♖e8 27.♖hg1 ♘e6 28.♖d5±; 26...♘e6 27.♖he1 ♖d8 28.♖xd8+ ♕xd8 29.a3±) 27.f4 ♖d6 28.♖de1 ♕f6 29.♗c2±

26...♕xe5 27.♖xe5 g6 28.♗c2 ♔g7 29.f4 f6

29...f5 30.♖dd5 (30.♖d4 h4=) 30...♘d7 31.♖e7+ ♖f7 32.♖xf7+ ♔xf7=

30.♖e3 f5= 31.b4



31...♘e4! 32.♔b2

32.♗xe4? fxe4 33.♖xe4 ♖xc3 34.♖d7+ ♖f7 35.♖ee7 ♖xe7 36.♖xe7+ ♔h6 37.♖xb7 ♖xh3-+

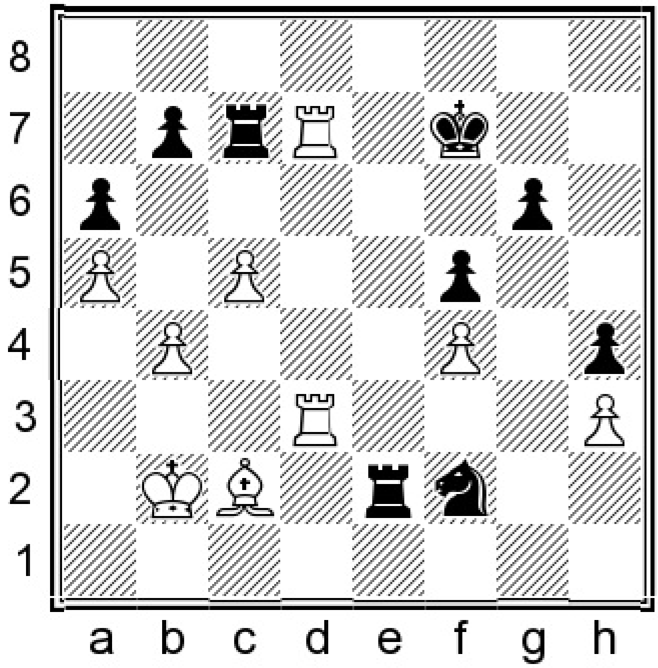
32...♖f6

32...h4 33.♗xe4 ♖e7 34.♖d4 ♖fe8 35.c4 ♖xe4 36.♖exe4 fxe4=

33.♖d4 ♖e6 34.a4 h4 35.a5 ♔f6 36.c4 ♘f2 37.♖f3 ♖e2 38.c5 ♘e4 39.♖fd3 ♘f2 40.♖d6+ ♔f7

40...♔g7 41.♖d7+ ♔h6=

41.♖d7+



41...♔f8! 42.♖d8+

42.♖xc7 ♘xd3+ 43.♔c3 ♘xb4 44.♗b3 ♘a2+ 45.♗xa2 ♖xa2 46.♖xb7 ♖xa5 47.♔b4 ♖a1=

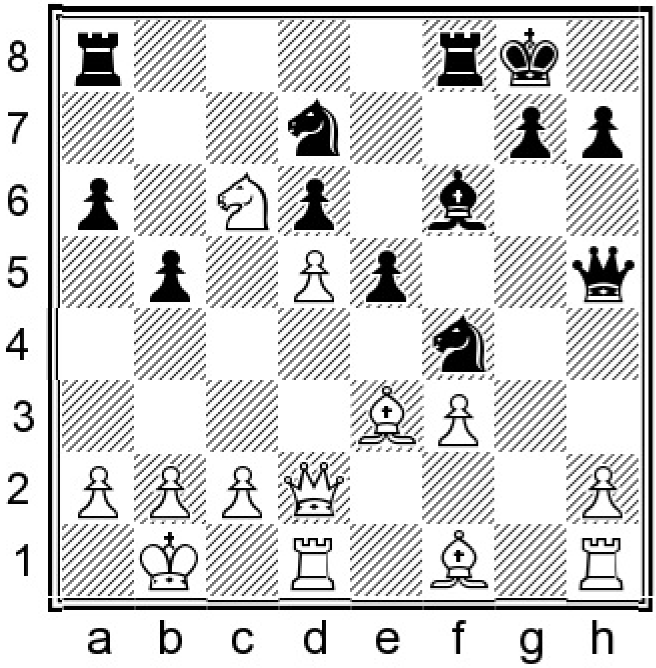
42...♔g7 43.♖f3 ♘e4 44.♖fd3 ♘f2 45.♖f3 ♘e4 46.♖fd3 1/2-1/2

78. B90
Mamedov, Nidjat (2595) - Navara, David (2675)
Reykjavik 150/78, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.f3 e5 7.♘b3 ♗e6 8.♗e3 ♗e7 9.♕d2 O-O 10.O-O-O ♘bd7 11.g4 b5 12.g5 ♘h5 13.♘d5 ♗xd5 14.exd5 f6 15.gxf6 ♗xf6 16.♘a5 ♘f4 17.♘c6 ♕e8 18.♔b1

18.♕b4 - 140/81

18...♕h5

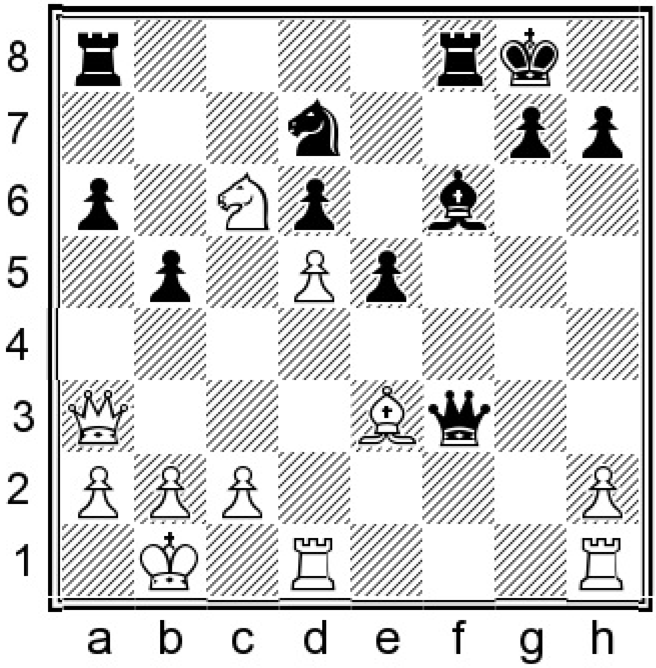

8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

18...♗d8 19.c4 bxc4 20.♘xd8 (20.♗xc4 ♗b6∞) 20...♕xd8 21.♗xc4 ♘b6 22.♗b3 a5∞

19.♗d3?!N

19.♗xf4 exf4 20.♕xf4 (20.♗d3 ♘b6∞) 20...♘e5 21.♘d4 (21.h4 ♕xf3 22.♕xf3 ♘xf3 23.h5 ♗g5∞) 21...♘g6 22.♕g4 ♕xg4 23.fxg4 ♗xd4 24.♖xd4 ♖f2=∞

19...♘xd3 20.♕xd3 ♕xf3 21.♕a3


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

21...♖f7

21...b4! 22.♘xb4 (22.♕b3 a5∓) 22...e4 23.♖df1 (23.♘c6 ♖fb8! 24.b4 a5 25.♘xb8 ♖xb8 26.♖hf1 ♕e2

27.♖de1 ♕c4∓) 23...♕h3 24.♘c6 ♗h4 25.♖xf8+ ♖xf8 26.♕xd6 ♖f6∓

22.♗c5?!

22.♖hf1 ♕h3 23.♗c5 ♕xa3 24.♗xa3 ♖e8 25.♗xd6 e4∓

22...♕xa3

22...e4! 23.♗xd6 ♖e8 24.♖he1 (24.♕xf3 exf3∓) 24...e3∓

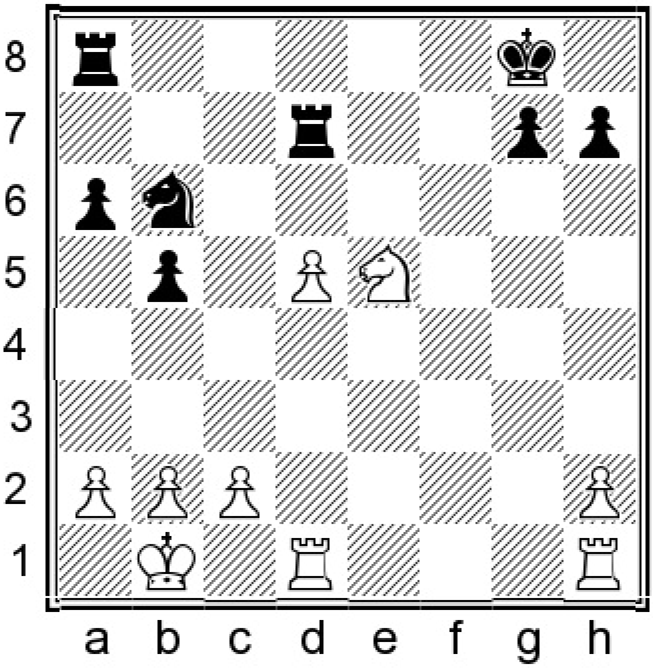
23.♗xa3 ♘b6

⌓23...♖e8 24.♗xd6 ♗h4∓ (24...e4∓)

24.♗xd6 ♖d7

24...e4 25.♗c5 ♘a4 26.♗d4 ♖e8 27.♗xf6 ♖xf6 28.d6 ♘b6∞

25.♗xe5 ♗xe5 26.♘xe5



26...♖xd5= 27.♖xd5 ♘xd5 28.♖d1 ♖f8

28...♘e3 29.♖d3 ♘f1 30.h3 ♖e8 31.♖d5 ♘e3 32.♖c5 ♘g2=

29.a4 ♘e3 30.♖e1 ♖f1 31.♖xf1 ♘xf1 32.axb5 axb5 33.h3 g5 34.♔c1 h5 35.c4 bxc4 36.♘xc4 g4 37.hxg4 h4 38.♘e5 h3 39.♘f3 h2 40.♘xh2 ♘xh2 41.b4 ♘xg4 42.b5 ♘e5 43.b6 ♘d7 44.b7 ♔f7 45.b8=Q ♘xb8 1/2-1/2

79. B90
Shankland, Samuel L (2691) - Duda, Jan Krzysztof (2729)
Praha 150/79, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.f3 e5 7.♘b3 ♗e6 8.♗e3 ♗e7 9.♕d2 O-O 10.O-

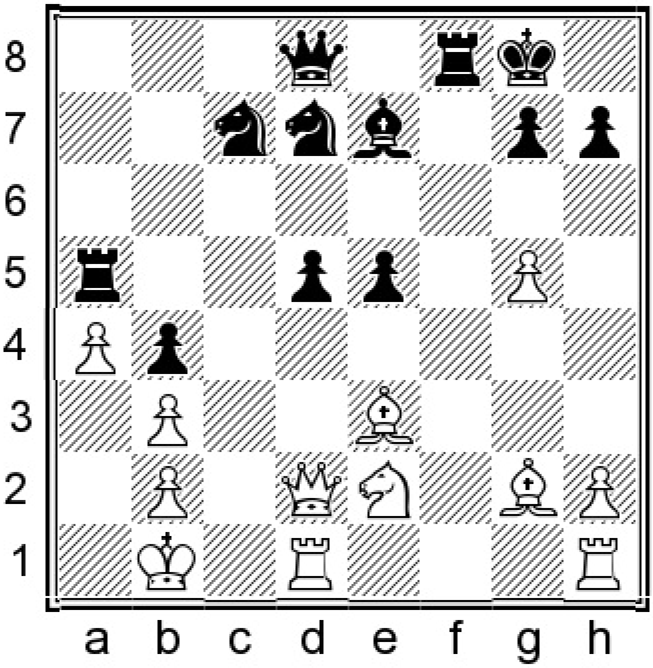
O-O ♘bd7 11.g4 b5 12.g5 b4 13.♘e2 ♘e8 14.f4 a5 15.f5 a4 16.fxe6 axb3 17.cxb3 fxe6 18.♗h3 ♘c7

⌓18...♖xa2 - 122/81

19.♔b1 d5

19...♕c8 20.♖hf1 ♕a6 21.♘c1 ♕a5 22.♖xf8+ ♘xf8 23.a4! d5 (23...bxa3 24.♕xa5 ♖xa5 25.♗b6+-) 24.♕c2±

20.exd5 exd5 21.♗g2 ♖a5 22.a4!



22...♔h8N

22...♖f7

23.♖he1 ♖a6 24.h4 ♖d6

24...d4 25.♗g1 ♘e6 26.♘c1 ♗d6 27.♘d3±

25.♗g1± h6

25...d4 26.♘xd4! exd4 27.♗h2 ♘c5 28.♗xd6 ♕xd6 29.♕xd4 ♕xd4 30.♖xd4+-

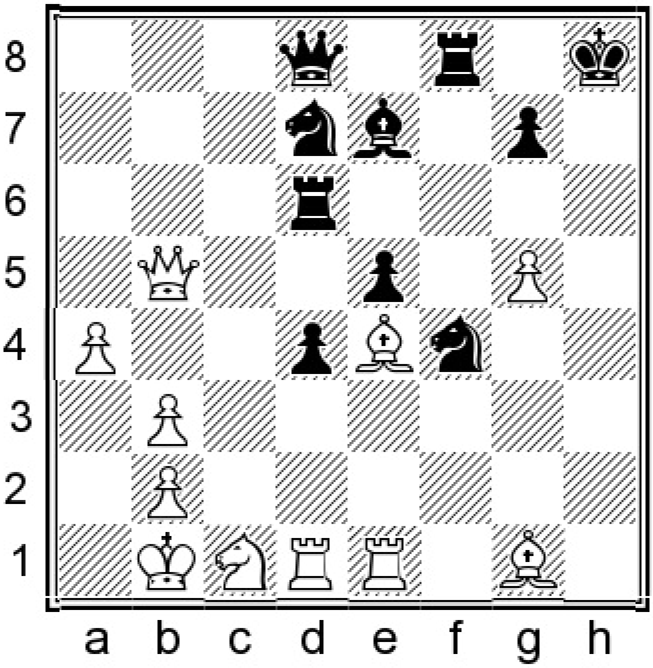
26.♕xb4 d4 27.♘c1 ♘d5 28.♕b5 ♘f4 29.♗c6! hxg5

29...♘b8 30.♗e4 ♘d7 31.♗h2 hxg5 32.hxg5 ♗xg5 33.♗xf4 ♗xf4 34.♘d3 ♕b8 35.♕c4 ♗h6 36.♖h1±

30.hxg5 ♘b8

30...♗xg5 31.♗h2 ♖ff6 32.♗xf4 ♗xf4 33.♗e4 ♖f8 34.♘d3+-

31.♗e4 ♘d7



32.g6!+- ♖b6

32...♕b8 33.♕xb8 ♖xb8 34.♗h2 ♘xg6 35.♘d3 ♖xb3 36.♖c1 ♗f8 37.♖c7 ♔g8 38.♖g1 ♘e7 39.♖xd7! ♖xd7 40.♘c5+-; 32...♗g5 33.♗h2 ♗h6 34.♘d3 ♖b6 35.♕c4 ♘xd3 36.♗xd3 ♕b8 37.♗c2

33.♕c4 ♘xg6 34.♘d3

34.♗h2 ♕c8 35.♕xc8 ♖xc8 36.♘d3 ♔g8 37.♖g1

34...♘f4 35.♗c6 ♗h4 36.♖xe5!?

36.♘xe5 ♗xe1 (36...♘xe5 37.♖xe5 ♕d6 38.♖c5 ♖c8 39.♖xd4 ♕g6+ 40.♔a2) 37.♘xd7 ♖b4 38.♕c1 ♖f7 39.♖xe1

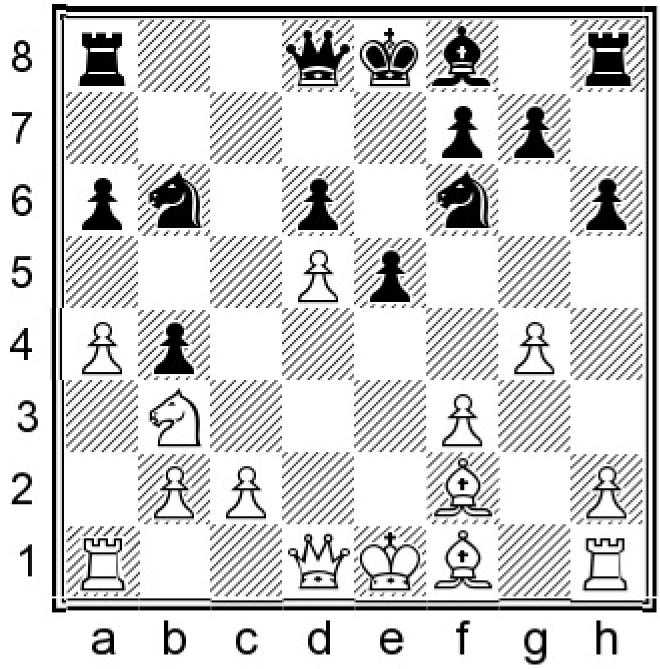
36...♘xe5 37.♘xe5 ♕f6 38.♗xd4 ♖bb8 39.♘d7 1-0

80. B90
Hakobyan, Aram (2612) - Yuffa, Daniil (2556)
Barcelona 150/80, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.f3 e5 7.♘b3 ♗e6 8.♗e3 ♘bd7 9.g4 b5 10.a4

10.g5 - 121/75

10...b4 11.♘d5 ♗xd5 12.exd5 ♘b6 13.♗f2 h6



14.♕d2N

14.♗xb6 ♕xb6 15.♕d2 g6 16.O-O-O ♗g7 17.♔b1 O-O∞

14...♗e7

14...♘bxd5 15.h4 ♗e7 16.O-O-O - 14...Be7

15.h4 ♘bxd5 16.O-O-O ♕c7 17.♖g1

17.♔b1 ♘f4 18.♗g3 ♘6d5 19.♗d3 ♖b8 20.♖he1 O-O∞

17...♘f4 18.♕xb4?!

18.♗g3 ♘6d5 19.♗d3 ♘xd3+ 20.♕xd3 ♖c8 21.♔b1 ♘b6 22.f4 O-O 23.g5 h5∞

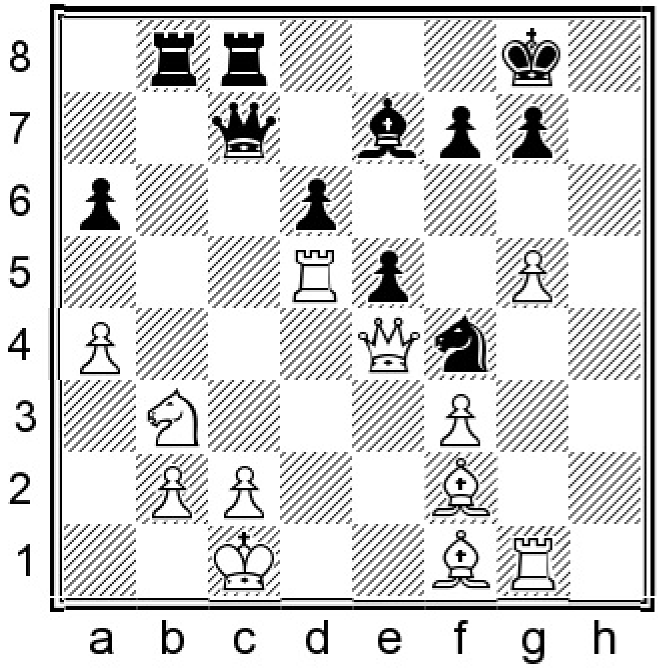
18...O-O 19.g5 ♖fc8! 20.♖d2 hxg5 21.hxg5 ♘6d5

21...♖ab8! 22.♕a5 ♘h7∓

22.♕e4 ♖ab8

22...g6 23.♔b1 ♕c6 24.♗g3 ♖ab8 25.♗xf4 ♘xf4 26.♖g4 ♘e6∓

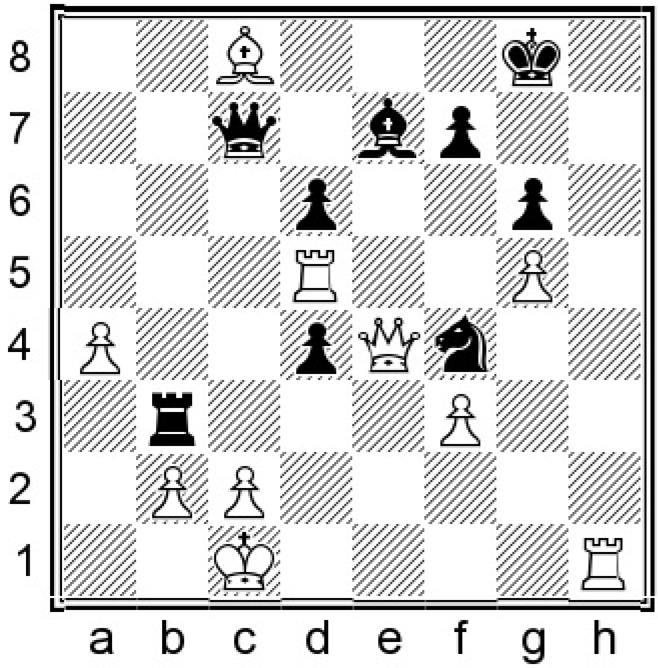
23.♖xd5



23...♖b4! 24.♗d4?

24.♘d4 g6 (24...♖xa4 25.g6! exd4 26.gxf7+ ♔f8 27.♗xd4 ♗f6 (27...♕xc2+ 28.♕xc2 ♖xc2+ 29.♔xc2 ♘xd5 30.♗xg7+ ♔xf7 31.b3 ♖a5 32.♗c4 ♔e8=) 28.♖xg7! ♗xg7 29.♗xg7+ ♔xg7 30.f8=Q+ ♖xf8 31.♕xa4 ♘xd5 32.♕g4+ ♔h8 33.♕h5+ ♕h7 34.♕xd5=) 25.♗xa6 ♘xd5 26.♗xc8 ♘f4 27.♕c6 ♘e2+! 28.♔b1 (28.♔d1? ♖xd4+-+) 28...♘c3+ 29.♔c1 ♘e2+=

24...♖xb3 25.♗xa6 exd4 26.♖h1 g6 27.♗xc8



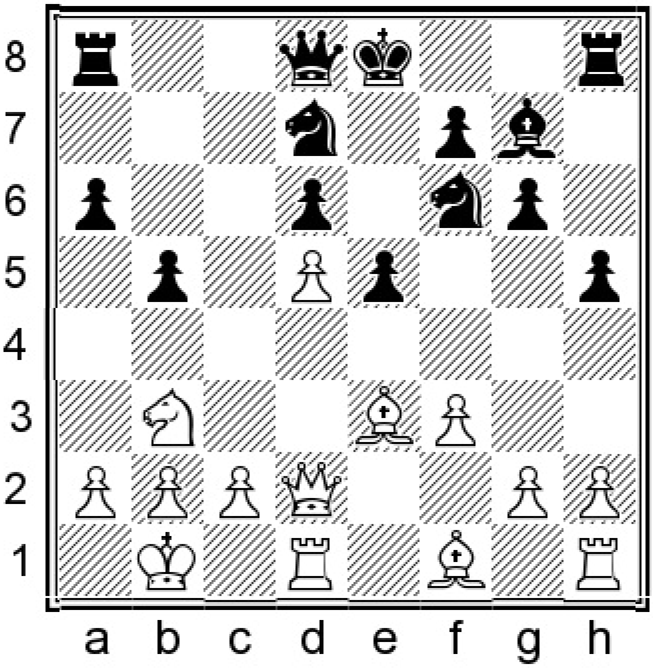
27...d3!-+ 28.♖h2

28.c4 ♘xd5 29.♕xd5 ♗xg5+ 30.♔b1 ♗f6-+; 28.c3 ♘e2+ 29.♔d2 ♖xb2+ 30.♔e3 ♘xc3-+

28...♘xd5 29.♕xd5 ♖b4! 30.♗g4 ♖xa4 31.♕xd3 ♕a7 32.c3 ♕g1+ 33.♔c2 ♕xh2+ 34.♔b3 ♖a8 35.♗e6 ♖b8+ 36.♔a4 fxe6 0-1

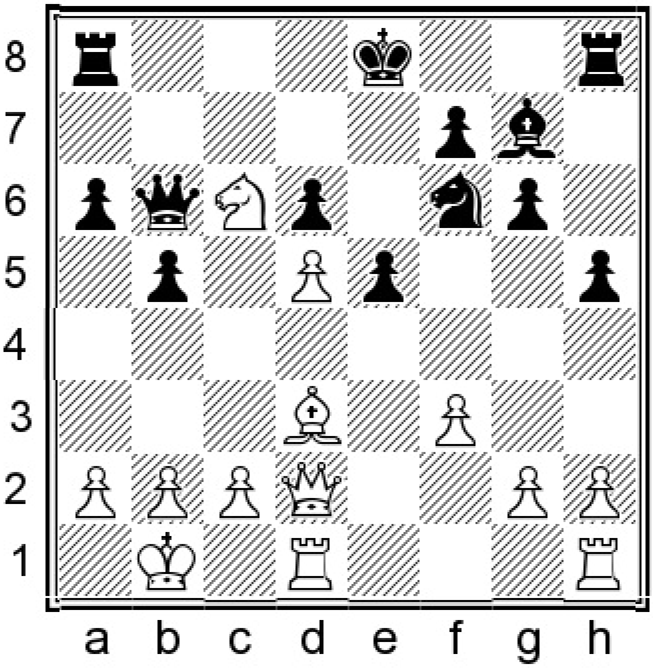
81. * B90
Ganguly, Surya Shekhar (2617) - Swiercz, Dariusz (2647)
Riga 150/81, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗e3 e5 7.♘b3 ♗e6 8.f3 h5 9.♕d2 ♘bd7 10.♘d5 ♗xd5 11.exd5 g6 12.O-O-O ♗g7 13.♔b1 b5



14.♖g1N

14.♘a5 - 150/(81) 14...♘b6 15.♘c6 (15.h4 ♖c8 16.g3 ♘bxd5 17.♗h3 ♖a8 18.♗g5 ♕c7 19.g4 ♖d8∞) 15...♕c7 16.♗xb6 ♕xb6 17.♗d3



(17.♕b4 ♕c7∞) 17...a5N (17...♕c5; 17...♕c7) 18.c3 (18.f4 O-O (18...b4 19.♗xg6 fxg6 20.fxe5 dxe5 21.♕g5 ♕c7 22.♕xg6+ ♔f8 23.♖hf1 ♕d6∞) 19.f5 (19.fxe5 dxe5 20.♘e7+ ♔h7 21.d6 e4 22.♗e2 ♖fd8∓) 19...e4 20.♗e2 e3 21.♕d3 g5 22.♕xb5 ♕c7=∞) 18...O-O 19.♗c2 ♖fe8 20.♖he1 ♖ac8 21.g3 ♖c7 22.h3 ♘xd5 23.♕xd5 ♕xc6 24.♕xc6 ♖xc6 25.a4 ♖c5 26.♖xd6 ♖b8 27.♖ed1 bxa4 28.♗xa4 e4!= 29.fxe4 1/2 (29) De Filippis,F-Woznica,M corr 150/ (81) 2021 (29.fxe4 ♗xc3 30.♖d8+ ♖xd8 31.♖xd8+ ♔g7 32.bxc3 ♖xc3 33.♖d5 ♖xg3 34.♗d7 ♖e3 35.e5 a4=)14.c4 - 138/(101)

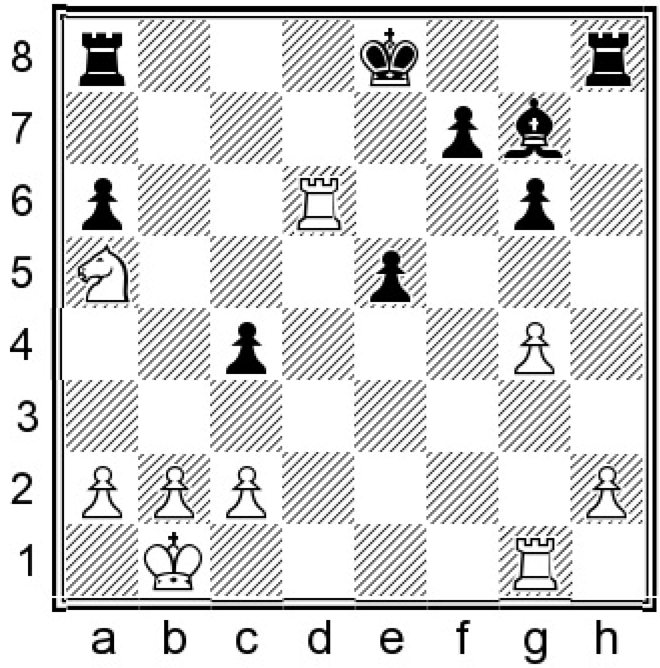
14...♘b6 15.g4

15.♘a5 ♖c8 16.♘c6 ♕c7 17.♗xb6 ♕xb6 18.♗d3 ♖c7∞

15...♘fxd5 16.♗xb6 ♘xb6 17.♕xd6 ♕xd6 18.♖xd6 ♘c4 19.♗xc4 bxc4 20.♘a5

20.♘c5 hxg4 21.fxg4 ♖xh2 22.a4 c3 23.b4 ♗f8 24.♖c6∞

20...hxg4 21.fxg4



21...c3!

21...♖xh2?! 22.♘xc4 ♖d8 23.♖xa6 ♖g2 24.♖e1 ♖xg4 25.♖c6 (25.♘xe5? ♖e4-+) 25...♖e4 26.♖f1 ♖f4=

22.♘c6 ♖xh2 23.bxc3

23.♖gd1 ♖d2! 24.♖6xd2 cxd2 25.♖xd2 f5 26.gxf5 gxf5 27.♘xe5 ♗xe5 28.♖d5 (28.♖e2? O-O-O-+) 28...♗g7 29.♖xf5 O-O-O 30.c3 ♖d6∓

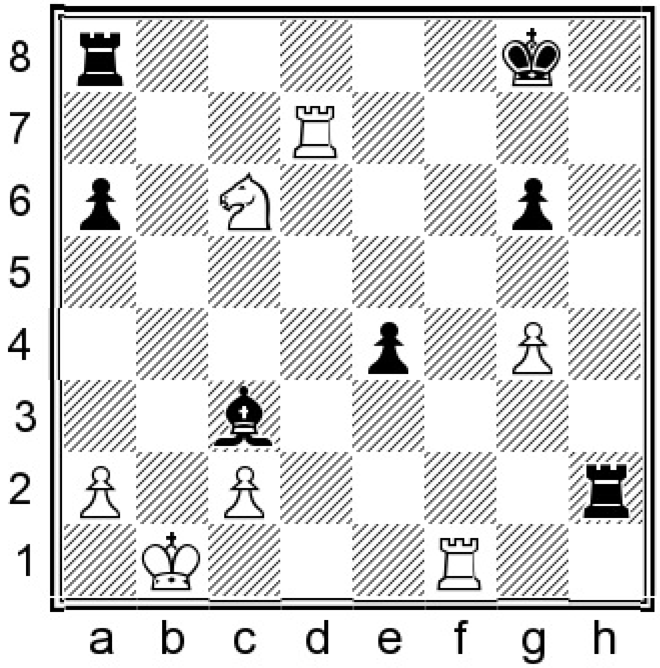
23...♔f8 24.♖f1 e4 25.♖d7 ♔g8

25...f6 26.♘e7 ♖b8+ 27.♔a1 f5 28.♘xg6+ ♔g8 29.♘e7+ ♔h8 30.♘g6+ ♔h7 31.gxf5 ♔h6 32.♖c7 ♖h3 33.♖xg7 ♔xg7 34.♘e5 ♖b5 35.f6+ ♔f8 36.♘d7+ ♔f7 37.c4 ♖g5∓

26.♖fxf7?

26.♖dxf7 e3 27.♘e7+ ♔h8 28.♘xg6+ ♔h7 29.♘e7 e2 30.♖e1 ♔h8∓; 26.♔b2 e3 27.♖fxf7 ♖h7 28.♖a7 ♖c8 29.♖fe7 ♖xc6 30.♖a8+ ♗f8 31.♖xf8+ ♔xf8 32.♖xh7 ♖e6 33.♖h1=

26...♗xc3 27.♖f1



27...♔h8!-+ 28.♖e7 ♖c8 29.g5 e3! 30.♖xe3 ♖xc6 31.♖e8+ ♔h7 32.♖f7+ ♗g7 33.c3 ♖b6+

33...♖xc3 34.♖ee7 ♖g3! 35.♖xg7+ ♔h8-+

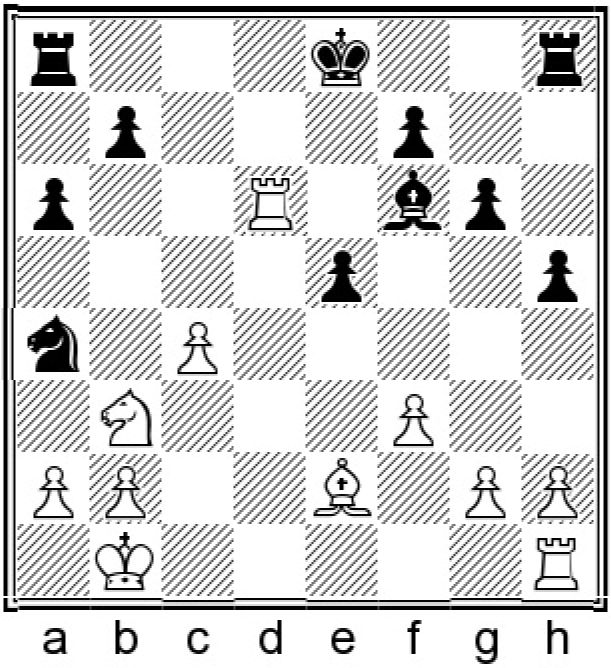
34.♔c1 ♖bb2 35.♖ee7 ♖bg2! 0-1

82. * B90
Lei, Tingjie (2505) - Praggnanandhaa, Rameshbabu (2617)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 150/82, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗e3 e5 7.♘b3 ♗e6 8.f3 h5 9.♕d2 ♘bd7 10.♘d5 ♗xd5 11.exd5 g6 12.O-O-O ♘b6 13.♔b1 ♘bxd5 14.♗g5 ♗e7 15.c4 ♘b6 16.♗xf6

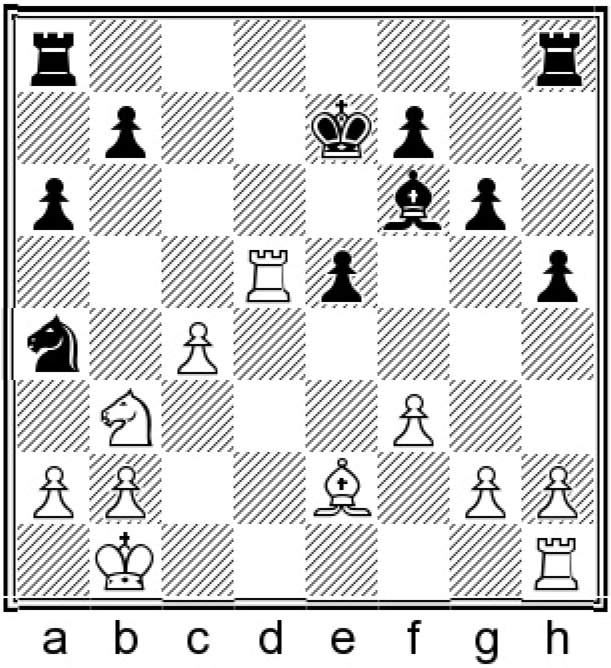
16.♘a5 - 143/76

16...♗xf6 17.♕xd6 ♕xd6 18.♖xd6 ♘a4 19.♗e2



19...♖d8N

19...♔e7 - 150/(82) 20.♖d5



(20.♖hd1 ♖hd8 21.♖xd8 ♖xd8 22.♖xd8 ♔xd8 23.c5 e4 24.fxe4 ♗xb2=) 20...♖hc8N (20...♖hd8) 21.♖c1 (21.♖hd1 ♖c7 22.♘d2 e4 23.♘xe4 ♘xb2 24.♖1d2 ♘a4=) 21...♘b6 22.♖c5 ♗g5 23.♖c2 ♘d7 24.♖xc8 ♖xc8 25.c5 ♗f4 26.g3 (26.h3 ♘b8 27.♘a5 ♘c6 28.♘xc6+ (28.♘xb7 ♖c7 29.♘d6 ♘d4 30.b4 ♘xc2 31.♔xc2 a5 32.a3 axb4 33.axb4 f5∓) 28...♖xc6 29.b4 f5=) 26...♗e3 27.♘a5 ♖xc5 28.♘xb7 ♖xc2 29.♔xc2 ♘b8= 30.♘a5 f5 31.♔d3 ♗f2 32.b4 1/2 (32) Glaser, K-Neves de Oliveira,B corr 150/(82) 2021

20.♖hd1

20.♖xf6 ♔e7 21.♖xa6 bxa6 22.c5 ♖b8 23.♗xa6 ♖b4! 24.♖c1 ♖a8 25.♗c4 ♖ab8∞

20...♖xd6 21.♖xd6 ♔e7 22.♖d5 ♖c8

22...e4 23.fxe4 ♗xb2 24.♘c5 (24.♖a5 ♘c3+ 25.♔xb2 ♘xe2 26.♖c5 ♔d7 27.♖d5+ ♔e7 28.♖c5=) 24...♘xc5 25.♖xc5 b6 26.♖c7+ ♔d6 27.♖xf7 ♗e5=

23.♘d2

23.♖a5 ♘b6 24.♖c5 ♔d7=

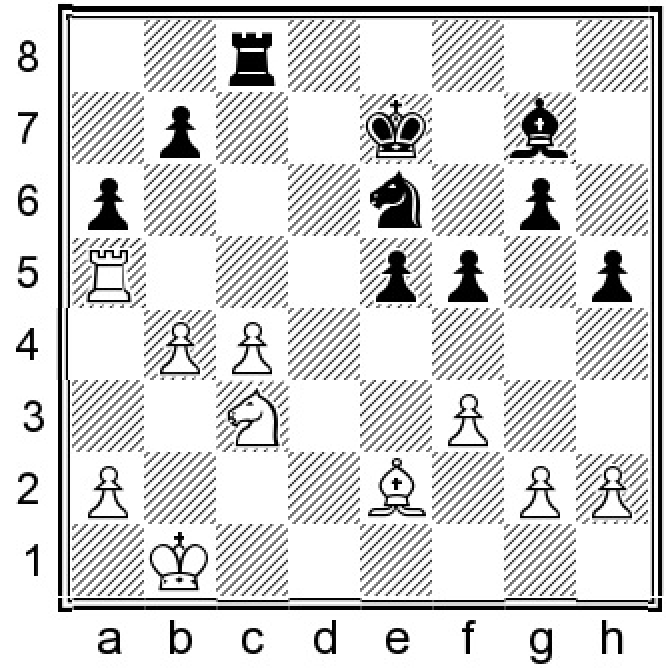
23...♗g7= 24.♖a5

24.♘e4 f5 25.b3 fxe4 (25...♘b6 26.♖d6 ♖c6 27.♖xc6 bxc6 28.♘c5 a5 29.♘b7 a4=) 26.bxa4 exf3 27.gxf3=

24...♘c5 25.b4 ♘e6 26.♘e4?!

26.♘b3 f5 27.b5 axb5 28.♖xb5 ♖c7 29.♖b6 e4 30.fxe4 fxe4 31.c5 ♗e5=

26...f5 27.♘c3



27...e4! 28.♘d5+ ♔f8

28...♔f7! 29.fxe4 fxe4 30.c5 (30.♘b6 ♖e8 31.♔c1 ♘f4 32.♔d1 ♖d8+ 33.♘d5 ♘xg2-+) 30...♘d4 31.♗c4 (31.♗f1 ♘c6 32.♖a4 ♖d8 33.♗c4 ♔e6!-+) 31...b5! 32.♗b3 ♘xb3 33.axb3 ♖d8 34.♘e3 ♗h6-+

29.fxe4 fxe4 30.c5

30.♗f1 ♗d4 31.g3 ♔g7 32.♗h3 ♔f7∓

30...♘d4 31.♗c4 ♗h6 32.♖a3 ♖e8?!

32...♔g7 33.♘c3 ♖e8∓

33.♘e3?

33.♘f6 ♖e7 34.♘g8 (34.♖g3 ♔g7 35.♘xh5+ ♔h7 36.♘f6+ ♔g7 37.♘d5 ♖e5=∞) 34...♖e5 35.♘xh6 e3 36.♘f7 e2 37.♗xe2 ♖xe2 38.♘d6 ♖e1+ 39.♔b2 ♖e2+ 40.♔c1 ♖xg2 41.♘xb7 ♘c6 42.♖xa6 ♘xb4 43.♖d6 ♘xa2+ 44.♔d1 ♘c3+ 45.♔e1 ♖xh2 46.♖xg6 ♖e2+ 47.♔f1 ♖c2=

33...♔g7 34.♗d5 ♖e7 35.♖c3 ♔f6

35...♖d7 36.♗c4 ♔f6 37.a4 ♔e5∓

36.a4 ♔e5 37.♗c4 ♗xe3 38.♖xe3 ♘f5

38...♔f4 39.♖e1 e3-+

39.♖e1 ♔d4-+ 40.♗e2

40.♖c1 ♘e3 41.♗e2 ♘d5 42.♗f1 ♖f7-+

40...♔c3

40...♘e3

41.b5?

41.♖c1+ ♔d2 42.♖c2+ ♔e1 43.c6 e3 44.c7 ♖xc7 45.♖xc7 ♔xe2 46.♔c2 ♔f1

41...♔d2 0-1

83. B90
Lei, Tingjie (2505) - Mishra, Abhimanyu (2517)
chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 150/83, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗e3 e5 7.♘b3 ♗e7 8.f3 ♗e6 9.♕d2 h5 10.♗e2 ♘bd7 11.♘d5 ♗xd5 12.exd5 ♕c7

12...O-O - 129/81

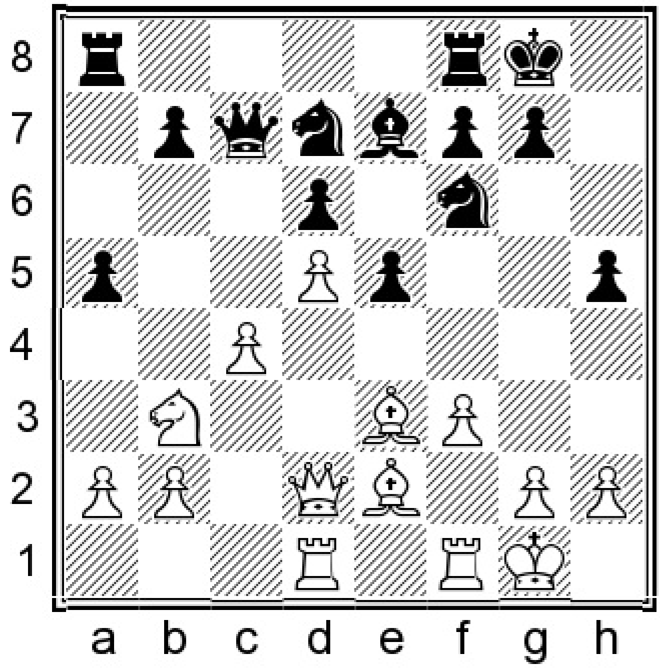
13.c4 a5 14.♖d1!?

14.♖c1; 14.O-O

14...O-O

14...h4 15.♕c1 ♘h5 16.O-O O-O 17.♗d3 g6=

15.O-O



15...b6?!N

15...a4 16.♘a1 e4 17.♔h1 exf3 18.gxf3! (18.♗xf3 ♕xc4∓) 18...♕a5 19.♕xa5 ♖xa5 20.♘c2 ♖c8 21.♘d4 g6 22.♔g2±; 15...♗d8 16.♔h1 a4 17.♘a1 ♕a5 18.♘c2 ♕xd2 19.♗xd2 ♗a5 20.♗g5 g6 21.♘a3 ♗b4 22.♘b5 ♔g7 23.g3 ♖fc8 24.♔g2 ♘e8=

16.♘a1 ♘c5 17.♘c2 h4 18.♘a3 ♘h5 19.♘b5 ♕d7 20.f4

20.♗d3 ♘xd3 21.♕xd3 ♖ab8 22.♗c1 (22.f4 ♘xf4 23.♗xf4 exf4 24.♖xf4 ♖be8 25.h3 ♗g5 26.♖f3 ♖e5=) 22...♖fe8 23.♖fe1 f5 24.b3 ♗f6 25.♕d2 ♔h7 26.g3±

20...♘xf4 21.♗xf4 exf4 22.♕xf4 ♖ae8 23.♗g4

23.b3 ♕d8 24.♗d3 g6 25.♔h1±

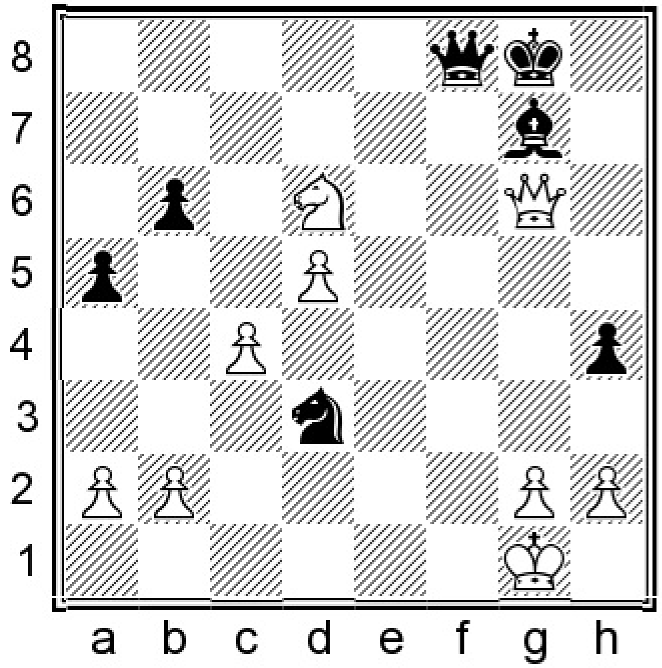
23...♕d8= 24.♗f5 g6 25.♗xg6?!

25.♗d3 ♘a4 26.♖b1 ♘c5=

25...fxg6 26.♕h6 ♖f6 27.♖xf6 ♗xf6 28.♕xg6+ ♗g7 29.♖f1

29.♘xd6 ♖f8 30.♘f5 ♕f6 31.♕xg7+ ♕xg7 32.♘xg7 ♔xg7 33.b3 ♖h8∓

29...♖f8∓ 30.♖xf8+ ♕xf8 31.♘xd6 ♘d3?!



31...♕f6 32.♕xf6 ♗xf6 33.♘c8 ♘d3 34.♔f1 ♘xb2 35.♘xb6 ♗d4 36.♘c8 ♘xc4∓

32.♘f5??

32.♕e6+ ♔h7 33.♕e4+ ♔h8 34.♘f5 ♕c5+ 35.♘e3 ♘xb2 36.♕xh4+ ♔g8 37.♕d8+ ♔f7 38.♕d7+ ♕e7 39.♕f5+ ♗f6 40.♔f2=

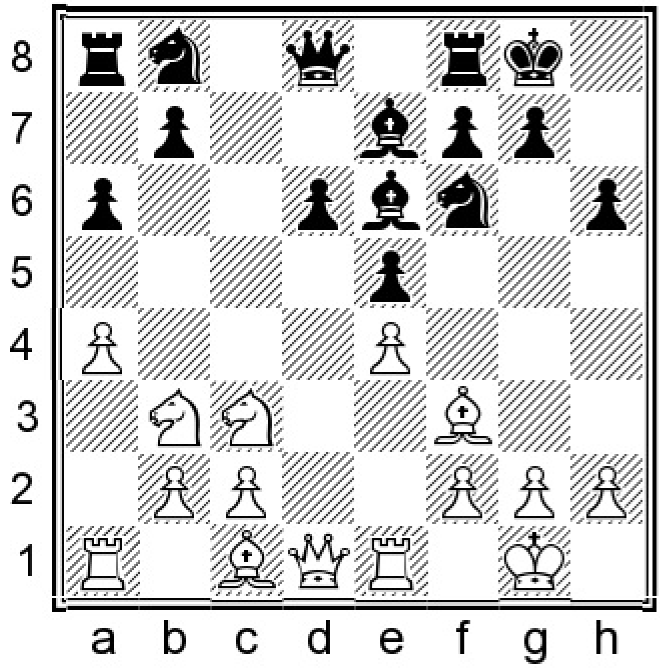
32...♕c5+-+ 33.♔h1 ♘f2+ 34.♔g1 ♘h3+ 0-1

84. B92
Rublevsky, Sergei (2641) - Alekseenko, Kirill (2693)
Struga 150/84, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗e2 e5 7.♘b3 ♗e7 8.O-O O-O 9.♖e1 h6

9...♗e6 - 146/89

10.a4 ♗e6 11.♗f3



11...♘h7N

11...♘bd7

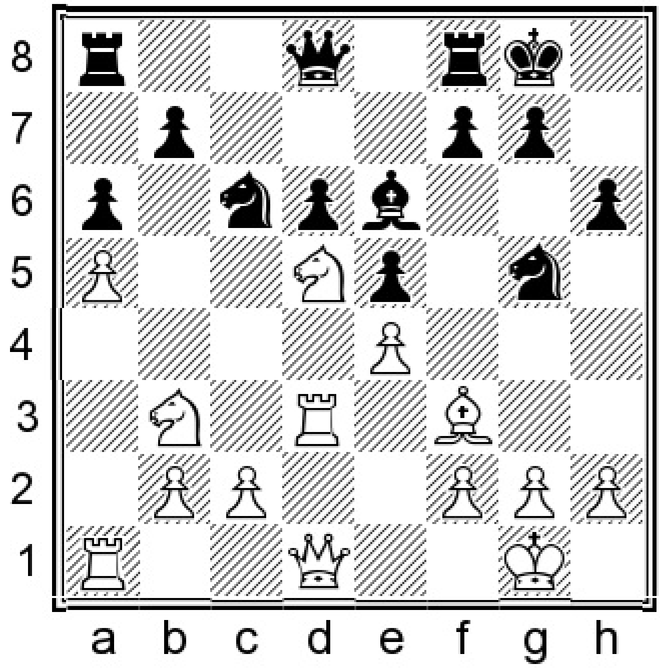
12.♘d5 ♗g5 13.♗e3

13.c4 ♘c6 14.♗e3 ♗xe3 15.♖xe3 ♘g5 16.♗g4 ♖c8=

13...♗xe3 14.♖xe3 ♘g5 15.♖d3

15.♗g4 ♘c6 16.a5 ♖c8 17.♘b6 ♖c7 18.c4 f5 19.exf5 ♗xf5∞

15...♘c6 16.a5



16...f5! 17.exf5 ♗xf5 18.♖e3 ♘xf3+

18...♔h8 19.c4 ♖c8 20.♗g4 ♘e7 21.♘b6 ♖c6=

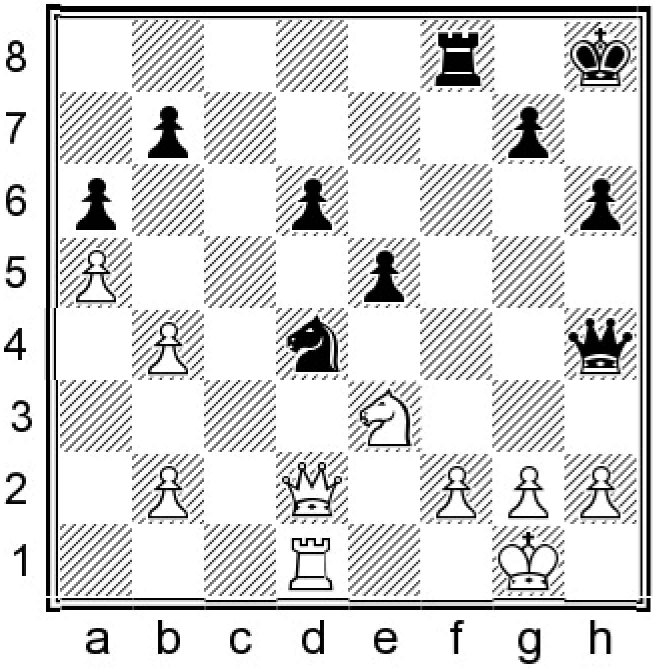
19.♖xf3 ♕h4! 20.♘e3

20.♕e2 ♕e4 21.♕xe4 ♗xe4 22.♖xf8+ ♖xf8 23.♘e3 ♔f7 24.f3 ♗g6 25.c3 ♔e6=

20...♗e6 21.♖xf8+

21.♕xd6? ♖xf3 22.gxf3 (22.♕xe6+ ♖f7-+) 22...♕h3-+

21...♖xf8 22.♕d2 ♔h8 23.♖d1 ♗xb3 24.cxb3 ♘d4 25.b4



25...d5! 26.h3

26.♘xd5? ♖d8-+

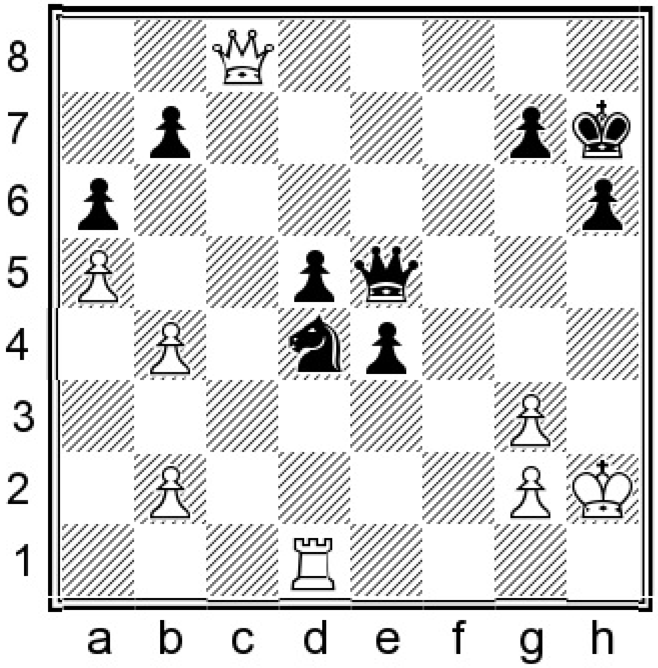
26...♖f3! 27.♘f1 ♖xh3

27...♖b3 28.♘e3 ♕e4∞

28.♘g3 ♕f6 29.♕c1 ♖xg3

29...♖h4 30.♕c8+ ♔h7 31.♕xb7 ♕e6 32.b5 ♘xb5 33.♕xd5 ♕xd5 34.♖xd5 ♖a4 35.♖xe5 ♖xa5=

30.♕c8+□ ♔h7 31.fxg3 e4 32.♔h2 ♕e5



33.♖xd4! ♕xd4 34.b5?

34.♕f5+ ♔g8 (34...g6 35.♕f7+ ♕g7 36.♕xd5 ♕e7 37.♕c5=) 35.♕c8+ ♔h7 36.♕f5+=

34...♕e5-+ 35.bxa6

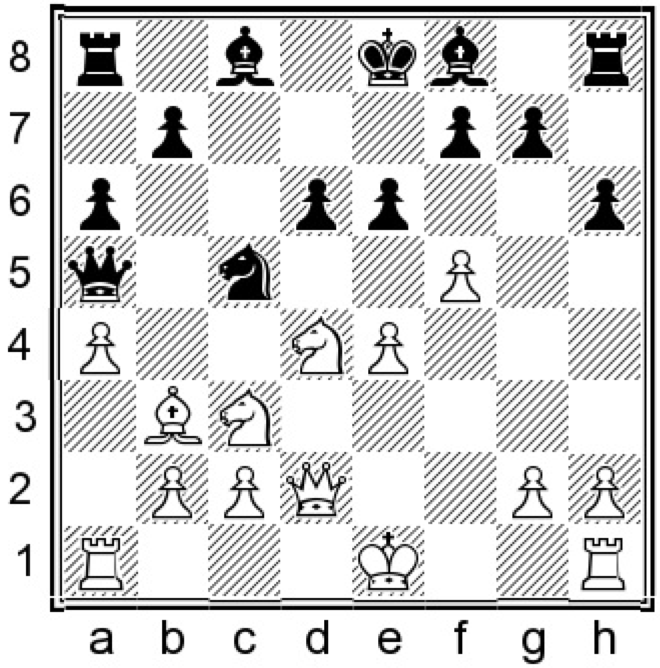
35.b6 d4 (35...e3? 36.♕c2+ ♔h8 37.♕c8++-) 36.♕xb7 e3 37.♕c7 (37.♕c6 d3 38.♕f3 d2 39.b7 ♕b5 40.♕e4+ ♔h8-+) 37...♕h5+ 38.♔g1 ♕d1+ 39.♔h2 e2-+

35...bxa6 36.♕xa6 d4 37.♕c4 d3 38.a6 ♕h5+ 39.♔g1 d2 40.♕xe4+ ♕g6 0-1

85. * B96**
Hovhannisyan, Robert (2622) - Najer, Evgeniy (2654)
Riga 150/85, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗g5 ♘bd7 7.♗c4 ♕b6 8.♗b3 e6 9.♗xf6

9.a4 ♕a5 10.♕d2 h6 11.♗xf6 ♘xf6 12.f4 ♘d7 13.f5 ♘c5

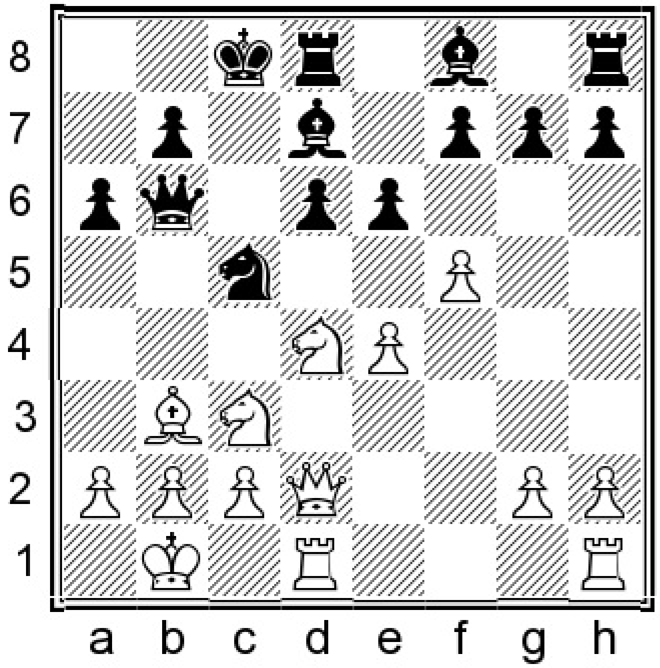

8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

14.O-O-ON (14.O-O) 14...♗d7 15.♔b1 O-O-O 16.♖hf1 ♔b8 17.fxe6 fxe6 18.♕e3 ♗e7 19.♕g3 ♗f6! 20.♕xd6+ ♕c7 21.♕xc7+ ♔xc7 22.a5 ♗c8 23.♘de2 b5 24.axb6+ ♔xb6=∞ Kuybokarov,T (2549)-Wei,Y (2725) chess.com (ol-rapid) 150/(85) 2021

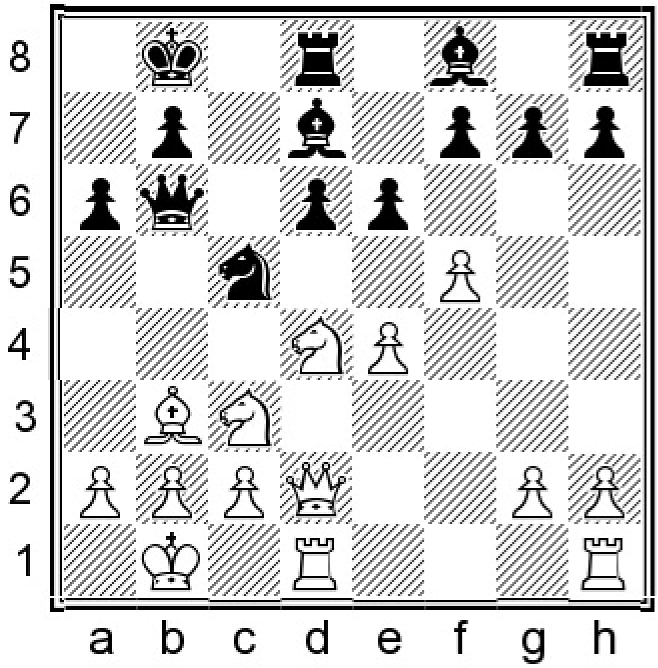
9...♘xf6 10.♕d2 ♘d7 11.O-O-O ♘c5 12.f4 ♗d7 13.f5

13.♔b1 - 146/92

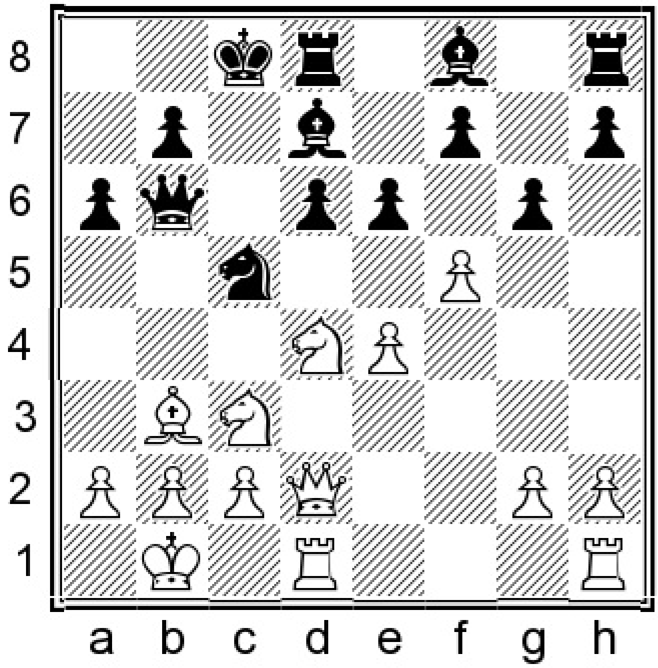
13...O-O-O 14.♔b1


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

14...♔b8N



14...g6



- 150/(85) 15.♕g5N (15.fxe6) 15...♗g7 16.f6 ♗f8 17.g4 h6 18.♕e3 g5 19.♘de2 ♗c6 20.♘g3 ♘d7 21.♕f3 ♘e5 22.♕e2 ♕c5 23.a3 ♖g8 24.♖hf1 ♖g6 25.h3 ♔b8 26.♘h5 ♖c8∓ Pijpers,A (2479)-Schoppen, C (2495) Nederland (ch-m/2) 150/(85) 2021

15.♕e3N

15.fxe6 - 150/(85) 15...fxe6 16.♕e3 ♘xb3 17.axb3 e5 18.♘f5 ♕xe3 19.♘xe3 ♗e7 20.h4 ♖df8 21.♘cd5 ♗d8 22.♘c4 ♗c7 23.♘xc7 ♔xc7 24.♘xd6 ♖f2 25.♘c4 ♗c6 26.♖de1 ♖e8 27.♖hf1 ♖xg2 28.♖f7+ ♔b8 29.♘a5 ♖c8 30.c3 ♖c7= Radhey Derling,D-Wojcik,W corr 150/(85) 2021

15...♘xb3 16.cxb3 ♗e7 17.♕g3 ♗f6 18.♘f3 ♗c8

18...♗c6!? 19.♖xd6 ♖xd6 20.♕xd6+ ♔a8 21.♕f4 ♗xc3 22.bxc3 exf5 23.exf5 ♕f2 24.♕g3 (24.♕d2 ♕xd2 25.♘xd2 ♖e8=) 24...♗e4+ 25.♔a1 ♕xg3 26.hxg3 ♗xf5=

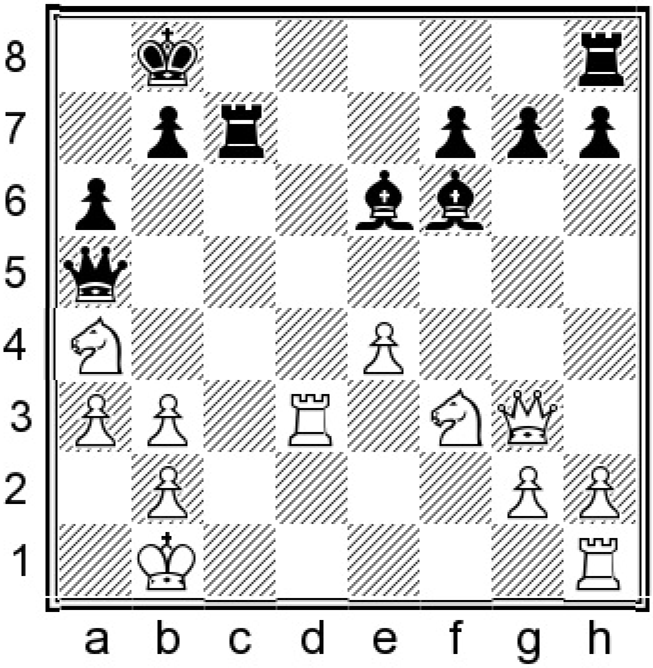
19.fxe6 ♗xe6 20.♖d3 ♖d7 21.♘a4

21.♖hd1 ♕c7 22.♖xd6 ♖xd6 23.♕xd6 ♕xd6 24.♖xd6 ♖e8=∞

21...♕b4 22.a3 ♕a5

22...♕xe4? 23.♘c5±

23.♖xd6 ♖c7 24.♖d3?!



24.e5 ♗e7 25.♘b6 (25.♕xg7? ♖hc8 26.♘d4 ♗xb3 27.♘xb3 ♕xa4-+) 25...♗xd6 26.exd6 ♖c6 27.d7+ ♔a7 28.♘c8+ ♖hxc8 29.dxc8=N+ ♖xc8 30.♘d4 ♗d5=

24...♗xb3! 25.♖xb3 ♕xa4 26.♘d2 ♕d4∓

26...♖c8 27.♖c1 ♕d7 28.♖xc7 ♖xc7 29.♕d3 ♕e6∓

27.♕d3?

27.♕e3 ♕xe3 28.♖xe3 ♖hc8∓

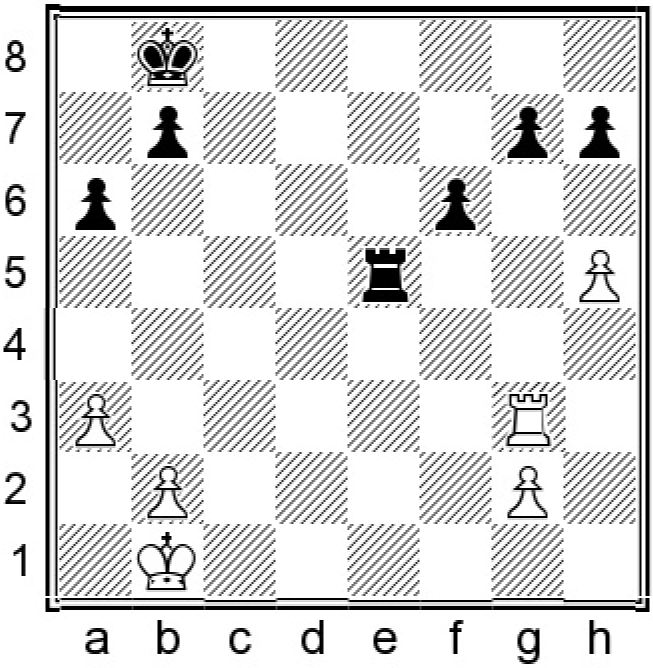
27...♖d8 28.♕xd4 ♖xd4 29.e5 ♗xe5 30.♘f3 ♖d5∓ 31.♘xe5 ♖xe5 32.h4 ♖ce7 33.♖hh3 ♖e4 34.♖hg3

34.h5 ♖g4 35.♖hg3 ♖xg3 36.♖xg3 g6 37.♖c3 f5∓

34...f6 35.h5 ♖h4 36.♖h3 ♖xh3 37.♖xh3 ♖e5

37...♔c7 38.♖f3 ♖f7 39.♔c2 ♔d6∓

38.♖g3



38...♖g5! 39.♖xg5 fxg5 40.♔c2 ♔c7 41.♔d3 ♔d6 42.♔d4 h6!-+ 43.a4 ♔e6 44.a5 g6 45.hxg6 ♔f6 46.b4 h5 47.b5 axb5 48.♔c5 h4 0-1

86. B97
Kozak, Adam (2504) - Yilmaz, Mustafa Enes (2630)
Reykjavik 150/86, 2021

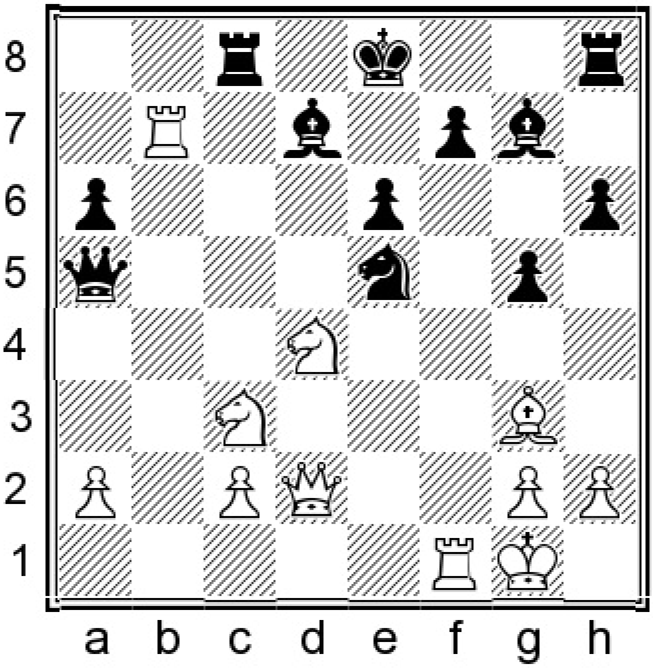
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗g5 e6 7.f4 ♕b6 8.♕d2 ♕xb2 9.♖b1 ♕a3 10.e5 h6 11.♗h4 dxe5 12.fxe5 g5 13.♗f2

13.exf6 - 135/92

13...♘g4 14.♗g3 ♗g7 15.♗b5+ ♘d7 16.♗xd7+ ♗xd7 17.♖b3

17.♖xb7? ♖d8! 18.O-O O-O 19.♘e4 ♗c6-+ (19...♕e3+ 20.♕xe3 ♘xe3∓)

17...♕a5 18.♖xb7 ♘xe5 19.O-O ♖c8!



19...♕c5?! 20.♘e4±; 19...O-O!? 20.♘b3 (20.♗xe5?! ♗xe5 21.♖xd7 ♖ad8 22.♘xe6 fxe6 23.♖xf8+ ♖xf8∓) 20...♘c4! 21.♕xd7 ♕xc3 22.♖xf7 ♖xf7 23.♕xf7+ ♔h8 24.♕xe6 ♖f8 25.♕e4 ♘e3 26.h3 ♖f1+ 27.♔h2 ♘f5 28.♕d3 ♕xd3 29.cxd3 h5=∞

20.♘f5!?N

20.♗xe5 ♗xe5 (20...♕xe5?! 21.♘f5 ♕c5+ 22.♖f2 O-O 23.♘e4 ♕xf5 24.♖xf5 exf5 25.♘d6 ♖cd8 26.c4±) 21.♖xf7! ♔xf7 22.♘xe6 ♖hd8 23.♘xd8+ ♖xd8 24.♖xd7+ ♖xd7 25.♕xd7+ ♔f8 26.♕f5+ ♔g7 27.♕d7+=

20...exf5 21.♗xe5 O-O 22.♗xg7 ♔xg7 23.♕d4+ ♔g6 24.♘d5

24.♘e4 fxe4 25.♖f6+ ♔h7 26.♕xd7 ♔g8 (26...♕e1+ 27.♖f1 ♕e3+ 28.♔h1 ♔g8 29.h3 ♖xc2 30.♖xf7 ♖c1+ 31.♔h2 ♕g1+ 32.♔g3 ♕e3+ 33.♔g4 ♕e2+ 34.♔g3 ♕e3+=) 27.♖g6+ ♔h7 28.♖f6 ♔g8=

24...♗e6 25.♘e7+ ♔h7 26.♘xc8 ♖xc8 27.♖b2

27.♕f6 ♕d5 28.♖xf7+ ♗xf7 29.♖xf5 ♕xa2 30.♕xf7+ ♕xf7 31.♖xf7+ ♔g6 32.♖a7 ♖c6=

27...♔g6 28.h3 ♖c4 29.♕f2 ♖e4 30.♖bb1 ♕xa2 31.♖be1 ♖a4

31...♖c4 32.♖a1 ♕xc2 33.♕xc2 ♖xc2 34.♖xa6=

32.♖e5 f4 33.♖fe1 ♖b4 34.♕d2 ♕c4 35.♕d6 ♕d4+ 36.♕xd4 ♖xd4 37.♖5e4

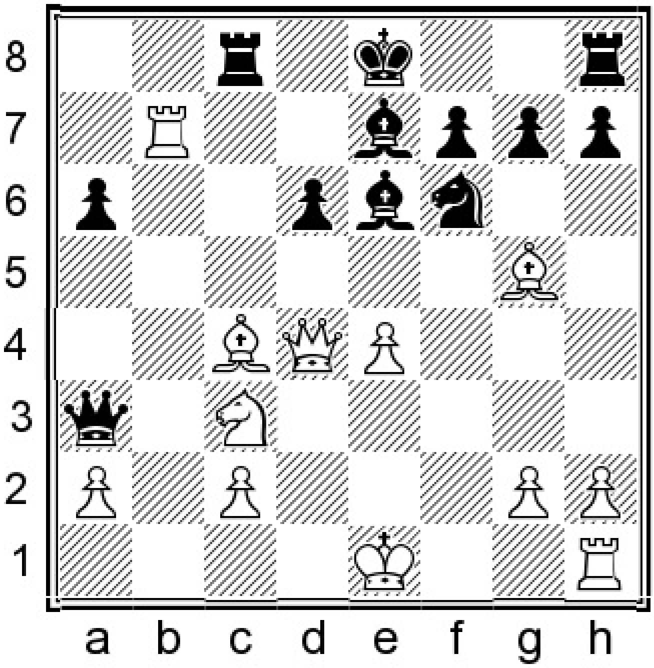
37.♖xe6+ fxe6 38.♖xe6+ ♔h5 39.♖xa6 ♔h4 40.♔f2 ♖d2+ 41.♔f3 h5 42.♖h6 ♖xc2 43.♖h8=

37...♖d6 38.♖a4 ♖c6 39.c4 ♔f6 40.♖c1 ♗d7 41.c5 ♖e6 42.♖d4 ♗b5 43.♖d8 a5 44.♖a8 a4 45.♖b1 ♗c6 46.♖a6 ♔e5 47.♖d1 h5 48.♖a7 f5 49.♖a6 h4 50.♖e1+ ♗e4 51.c6 ♖e7 52.♖xa4 ♖c7 53.♖a6 ♔d6 54.♖d1+ ♔e5 1/2-1/2

87. * B97
Giri, Anish (2774) - Wang, Hao (2744)
ChessSuperLeague (Int.-rapid) 150/87, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗g5 e6 7.f4 ♕b6 8.♕d2 ♕xb2 9.♖b1 ♕a3 10.f5 ♘c6 11.fxe6 ♗xe6 12.♖xb7 ♘xd4 13.♕xd4 ♗e7 14.♗c4 h6

14...♖c8

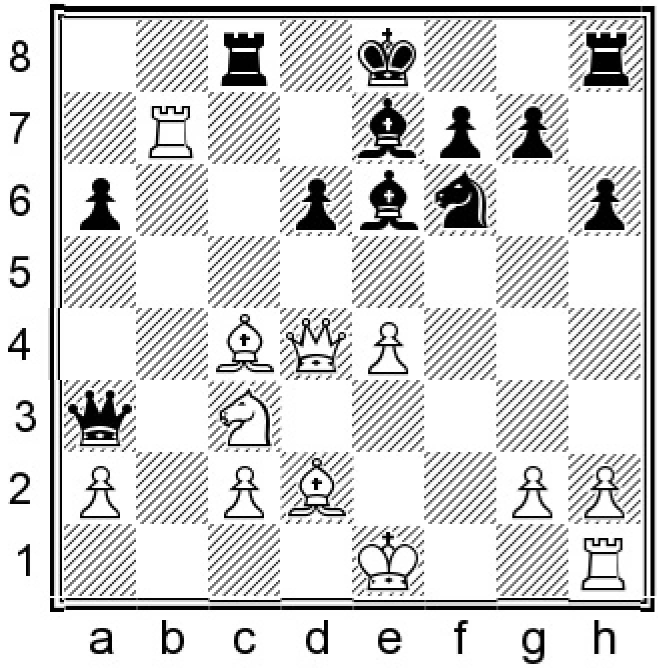


15.♗xe6N (15.♘d5 - 148/92) 15...fxe6 16.♗d2 ♕c5 17.♕xc5 ♖xc5 18.♔e2 ♔f7 19.♖hb1 ♖hc8 20.♖1b3 ♖c4 21.♖a7 ♘xe4 (21...♖8c7 22.♖xc7 ♖xc7 23.♖b6 ♖a7 24.♖c6 ♔e8 25.♗e3 ♔d7 26.♖b6 ♖c7 27.♔d3 ♖c6=) 22.♘xe4 ♖xe4+ 23.♔f3 ♖e5 24.♖bb7 ♖f5+ 25.♔e2 ♖e8 26.♖xa6 ♖e5+ 27.♔d3 ♖d5+= 28.♔e2 ♖e5+ 29.♔d3 ♖d5+ 30.♔e2 ♖e5+ 1/2 (30) Kuybokarov,T (2549) -Matlakov, M (2682) Riga 150/(87) 2021

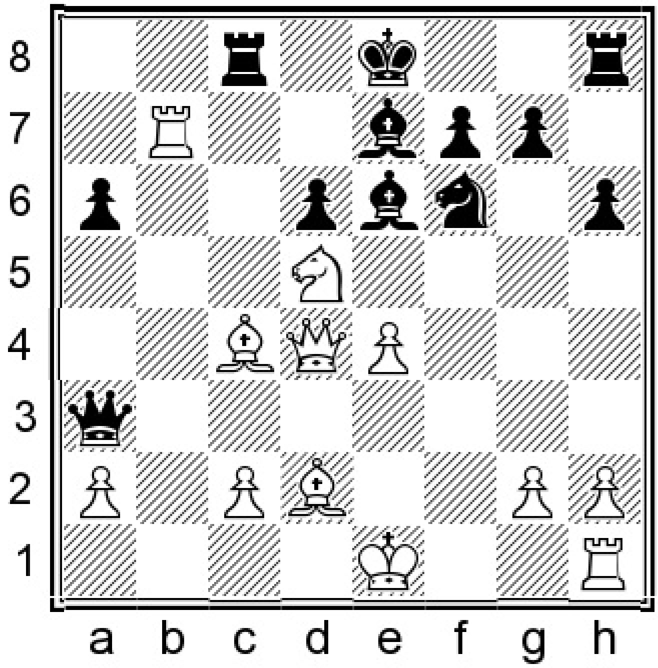
15.♗d2

15.♗h4 ♗xc4 16.♕xc4 O-O 17.O-O (17.♖xe7 d5! 18.♘xd5□ ♘xd5 19.exd5 ♕c1+ 20.♔f2 ♕xh1 21.d6 ♕d1∓) 17...♖ac8 18.♕b3 ♖xc3 19.♕xa3 ♖xa3 20.♖xe7 ♘g4∓; 15.♗e3 ♖c8 16.♗b3 ♗xb3 17.♖xb3 ♕a5 18.O-O O-O 19.♕d3 ♕c7=

15...♖c8



16.♘d5N



16.♗b3 ♗xb3 17.cxb3 ♗d8! 18.O-O O-O 19.♘d5 ♘xd5 20.♕xd5 ♗f6=; 16.♗xe6 fxe6 17.♔e2 ♖f8 18.♖f1 (18.♖hb1 ♘d7 19.♖1b4 ♖f7∞) 18...♖f7 19.♖f3 ♕c5=; 16.♗d5 ♕c5 17.♕xc5 ♖xc5 18.O-O ♗d8 19.♗xe6 fxe6 20.♖xg7 ♖c4 21.♖f3 ♘d7=∞

16...♗d8!

16...♗xd5? 17.♗xd5 ♕c5 18.♕xc5 dxc5 19.♔f2±

17.O-O O-O 18.♗b3 ♕c5 19.♕xc5 dxc5 20.♘xf6+

20.♘e7+ ♗xe7 21.♗xe6 fxe6 22.♖xe7 ♘xe4 23.♗a5 ♖xf1+ 24.♔xf1 ♖c6 25.♔e2 ♖d6 26.♗c7 ♘c3+ 27.♔f3 ♖d5 28.♖xe6 ♘xa2 29.♖xa6 ♘b4 30.♖d6 ♖xd6 31.♗xd6 ♘xc2 32.♗xc5 ♘e1+ 33.♔g3 ♘d3=

20...♗xf6 21.♗d5 c4

21...♖fe8 22.♖f3 c4 23.♗c3 ♗xc3 24.♖xc3 ♗xd5 25.exd5 ♖cd8 26.♖f3 ♖xd5 27.♖fxf7 ♖d1+ 28.♔f2 ♖f8 29.♖xf8+ ♔xf8 30.♖a7 ♖d2+ 31.♔f3 ♖xc2 32.♖xa6 ♔e7=

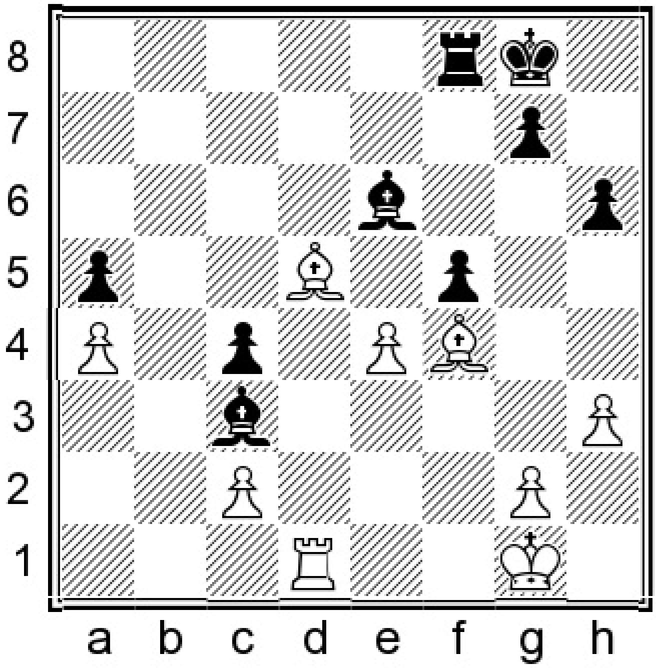
22.♖d1 ♖b8

22...♗d4+ 23.♔f1 (23.♔h1 ♖fe8=) 23...♗xd5 24.exd5 ♖fd8 25.♗xh6 ♖xd5 26.♗f4 ♖e8=

23.♗f4 ♖xb7 24.♗xb7 a5 25.a4

25.♔f2 ♗g5 26.♗e5 f5 27.♗d5 fxe4+ 28.♔e2 ♗xd5 29.♖xd5 ♔f7 30.a4 (30.♖xa5 ♖d8=) 30...c3! 31.♖c5 ♗f6 32.♗xc3 ♗xc3 33.♖xc3 ♔e6 34.♔e3 ♖f1 35.♔xe4 ♖f2 36.♖e3 ♔d6 37.♖g3 g5 38.♔d3 ♔c5=

25...♗c3 26.h3 f5 27.♗d5



27...♖e8

27...♗xd5 28.exd5 ♔f7=

28.♗d2 ♗xd2 29.♖xd2 ♔f7

29...fxe4 30.♗xe4 ♔f8=

30.exf5 ♗xd5 31.♖xd5 ♖e2= 32.♖xa5 ♖xc2 33.♖c5 c3 34.♔h2 ♔f6 35.a5 ♖a2 36.♖xc3 ♖xa5 37.g4 ♖a6 38.♔g3 h5 39.gxh5

39.♔h4 hxg4 40.hxg4 g6=

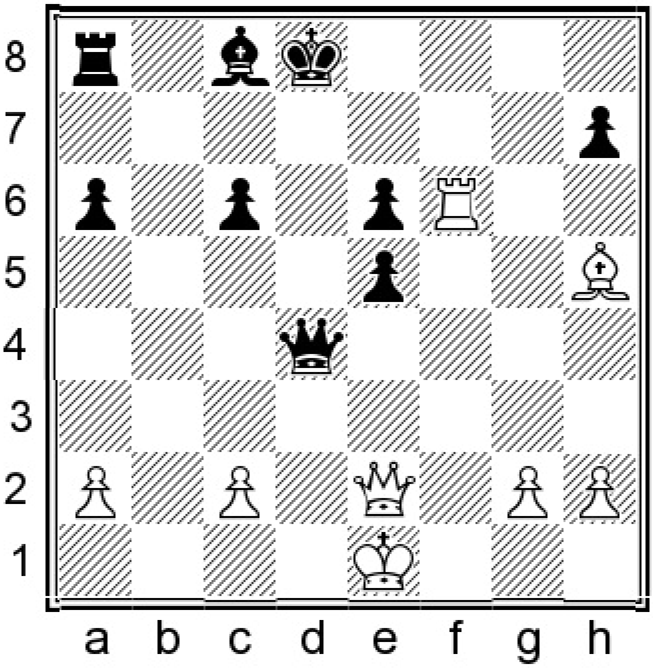
39...♔xf5 40.h4 ♔f6 41.♖f3+ ♔e7 42.♔g4 ♖a5 43.♖f4 ♖b5 44.♖f3 ♖a5 45.♖f5 ♖xf5 46.♔xf5 ♔f7 47.♔g5 ♔g8 48.h6 gxh6+ 49.♔xh6 ♔h8 50.♔g6 ♔g8 51.h5 ♔h8 52.h6 ♔g8 53.h7+ ♔h8 54.♔h6 1/2-1/2

88. B97
Rakotomaharo, Fy Antenaina (2435) - Mendonca, Leon Luke (2557)
Paleochora 150/88, 2021

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗g5 e6 7.f4 ♕b6 8.♕d2 ♕xb2 9.♖b1 ♕a3 10.f5 ♘c6 11.fxe6 fxe6 12.♘xc6 bxc6 13.♗e2 ♗e7 14.e5 dxe5 15.♗xf6 ♗xf6 16.♗h5+ ♔e7 17.♖d1 ♕c5 18.♘e4 ♕d4 19.♕e2 ♕b6 20.♖f1

20.♕f3 ♖b8 21.♖f1 ♖f8 22.♖f2 a5 23.g4 ♖d8 24.g5 ♖xd1+ 25.♔xd1 ♕b1+ 26.♔d2 ♕b4+ 27.♔d1 ♕b1+ 28.♔d2=

20...♖d8 21.♖xd8 ♔xd8 22.♘xf6 [- 147/(86)] **22...gxf6 23.♖xf6 ♕d4**



24.♖f7N

24.♕d3 ♔c7 25.♖f7+ ♗d7 26.♖xh7 ♕g1+ 27.♔d2 ♕xg2+ 28.♗e2 ♕g5+ 29.♔c3 ♖d8 30.♕xa6 ♕e3+ 31.♕d3 ♕c1=

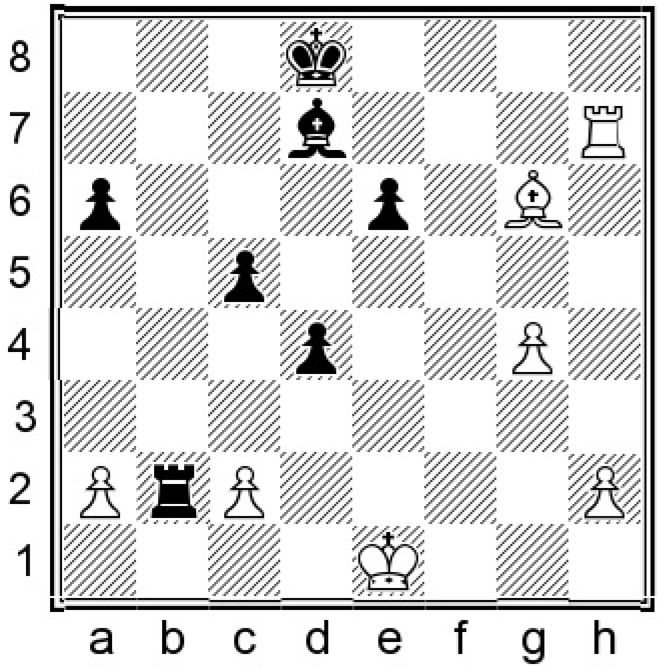
24...♖b8 25.♕d2 ♗d7 26.♕xd4

26.♕a5+ ♖b6 27.♔f1 ♔c8 28.♕e1 ♖b2 29.♖f8+ ♔c7∓

26...exd4 27.♖xh7 ♖b2 28.♗g6

28.g4 ♖xc2 29.g5 e5 30.g6 ♗e6 31.g7 ♗xa2 32.h4 (32.♖h8+ ♔c7 33.g8=Q ♗xg8 34.♖xg8 ♖xh2∓) 32...♖g2 33.♔f1 ♗g8 34.♔xg2 ♗xh7 35.♗f7 ♔e7 36.g8=Q ♗xg8 37.♗xg8=

28...c5 29.g4?



29.♖h5 c4 30.♖c5 c3∓; 29.h4 c4 30.h5 d3 31.♖g7 (31.cxd3? c3-+) 31...dxc2 32.♗xc2 ♖xc2 33.h6 ♖c1+ 34.♔d2 ♖h1 35.h7 ♔c7 36.g4 ♖h2+ 37.♔c1 ♔d6 38.g5 ♗e8 39.♖g8 ♖xh7 40.♖xe8 ♔e5 41.♔c2 ♖h2+ 42.♔c3 ♖xa2 43.♔xc4=

29...♗a4!

29...c4!? 30.g5 ♗a4 31.h4 c3∓

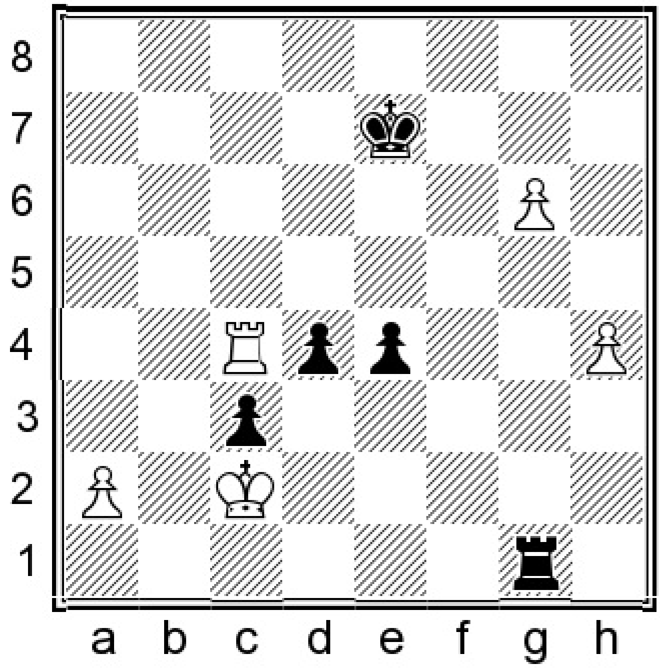
30.g5

30.c4 dxc3 31.♖h3 c2 32.♔d2 ♖b1 33.♗xc2 ♖b2 34.♖c3 ♖xa2 35.♖xc5 ♖xc2+ 36.♖xc2 ♗xc2 37.♔xc2 ♔e7 38.♔c3 a5 39.♔c4 e5-+

30...♗xc2-+ 31.♗xc2 ♖xc2 32.♖a7

32.h4 ♖g2 33.♖b7 d3 34.♖b3 c4 35.♖c3 ♖g4 36.h5 ♔e7

32...♖g2 33.♖xa6 ♔e7 34.h4 c4 35.♖c6 c3 36.♔d1 e5 37.g6 e4 38.♖c4 ♖g1+ 39.♔c2



39...d3+! 0-1

89. B99
Navara, David (2676) - Cvitan, Ognjen (2470)
Struga 150/89, 2021

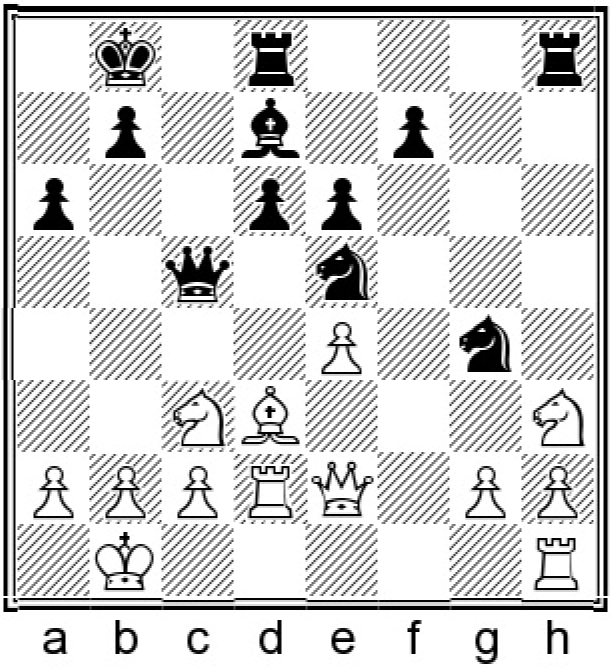
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.♗g5 e6 7.f4 ♗e7 8.♕f3 ♕c7 9.O-O-O ♘bd7 10.♗d3 h6 11.♗h4 g5 12.fxg5 ♘e5 13.♕e2 ♘fg4 14.♘f3 hxg5 15.♗xg5 ♗xg5+ 16.♘xg5 ♕c5 17.♘h3 ♗d7 18.♖d2

18.♕d2 - 16/491

18...O-O-O

18...♔e7 19.♘d1 ♖ag8 20.♔b1 b5∓

19.♔b1 ♔b8



20.♕e1N

20.♖hd1

20...♖c8 21.♖e2 ♕d4=∞ 22.a3

22.♕d2 ♖h4=∞

22...♘xd3 23.cxd3 ♕xd3+ 24.♔a1 ♕d4 25.♘g5 ♘e5 26.♘f3 ♕c5

26...♘xf3 27.gxf3 ♖h3 28.♖d2 ♕e5 29.♕f1 ♖h4=

27.♘xe5 ♕xe5

27...dxe5?! 28.h4 ♖cg8 29.g3 ♖h7 30.♖e3 ♗c6 31.♖f1±

28.g3

28.h4 ♖cg8 29.♕f2 ♗c6 (29...♖g7 30.♖d1 ♗c6∞) 30.♕xf7 ♖f8 31.♕e7 ♖e8 32.♕f7 ♖ef8=

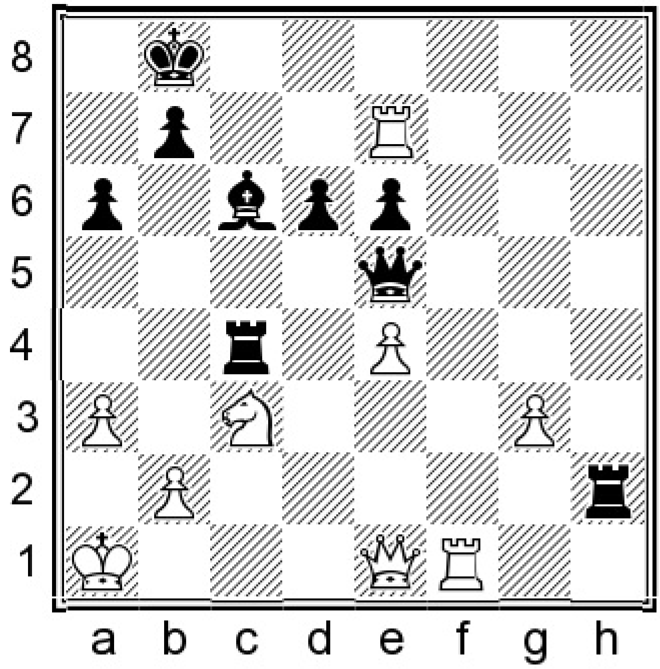
28...♖c4 29.♖f1 ♖h7

29...♖xc3!? 30.♕xc3 ♕xc3 31.bxc3 ♗b5 32.♖ff2 ♗xe2 33.♖xe2 ♔c7=

30.♖ef2 ♗c6 31.♖xf7?!

31.♕d2 ♗xe4 32.♖xf7 ♖xf7 33.♖xf7 ♕c5 34.♖f4 d5∞

31...♖xh2 32.♖e7?



32.♖f8+ ♔a7 33.♖8f2 ♕xg3 34.♖xh2 ♕xh2 35.♕e3+ b6 (35...♔b8 36.♖f8+ ♔c7 37.♖f7+ ♔b8=) 36.♕d3 d5 (36...♖c5 37.♖f7+ ♗b7 38.♖e7 d5 39.exd5 exd5 40.♕d4=) 37.♖f7+ ♗b7 38.exd5 exd5 39.♕xd5 ♖c7=

32...♖xe4! 33.♖f8+ ♔a7 34.♕g1+ ♕d4-+ 35.♕xh2 ♖e1+ 36.♔a2

36.♘b1 ♖xb1+ 37.♔xb1 ♕d1+ 38.♔a2 ♗d5+ 39.b3 ♕xb3+ 40.♔a1 ♕xa3+ 41.♔b1 ♗e4+-+

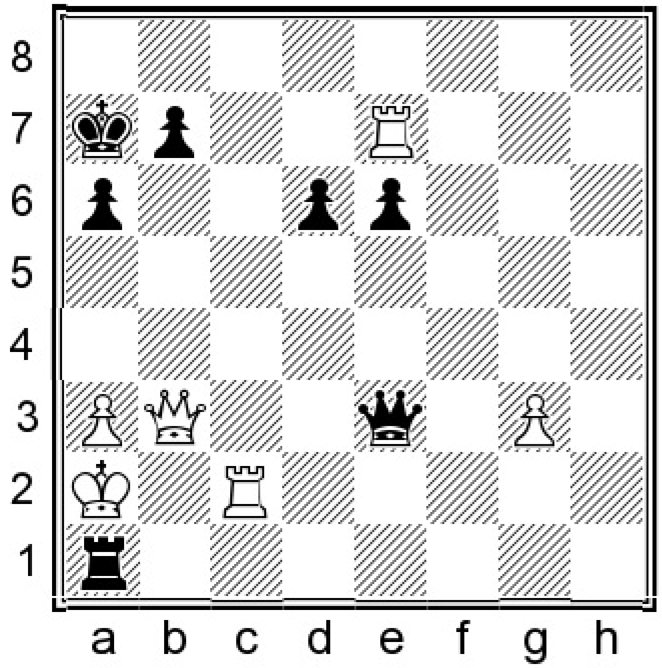
36...♕c4+ 37.b3 ♕xc3 38.♕b2 ♕e3

38...♕d3! 39.♖f2 (39.♕f2+ ♖e3-+) 39...♗d5 40.♖c2 ♖e3 41.♔a1 ♖xg3-+

39.♖f2 ♗d5 40.♖c2 ♗xb3+?

40...a5 41.♕c3 (41.a4 ♕e4-+) 41...♕xc3 42.♖xc3 a4 43.♔b2 axb3 44.♖c1 ♖e2+ 45.♔c3 ♖e3+ 46.♔b2 ♖xg3-+

41.♕xb3 ♖a1+



42.♔b2!

42.♔xa1 ♕xb3 43.♖b2 ♕xa3+ 44.♔b1 ♕d3+ 45.♔a2 ♕d5+ 46.♖b3 ♔b8-+

42...♖b1+ 43.♔xb1 ♕xb3+ 44.♖b2 ♕d1+ 45.♔a2 ♕d5+ 46.♔b1 ♕d1+

46...♔b8 47.g4 b5 48.♖f2 ♕b3+ 49.♔a1 ♕xa3+ 50.♔b1 ♕b4+ 51.♔a2 ♕a5+ 52.♔b2=

47.♔a2 ♕d5+ 48.♔b1 1/2-1/2

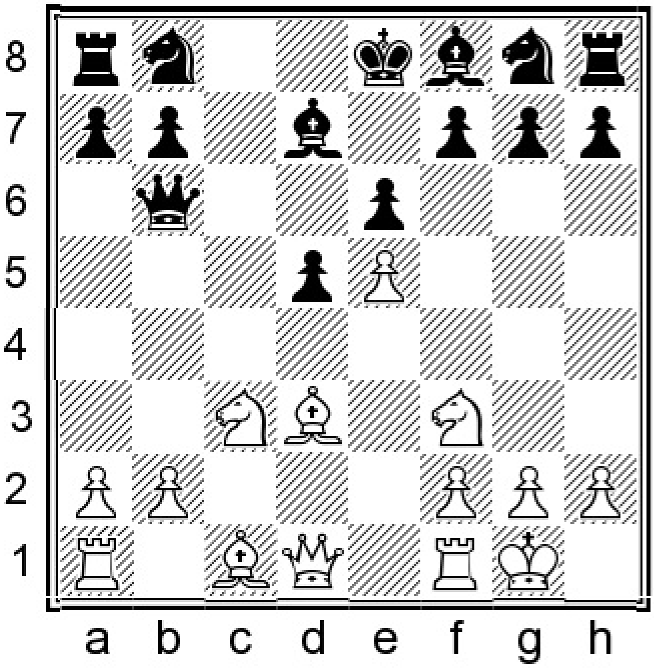
C00-C24

90. C02
Yip, Carissa (2402) - Zatonskih, Anna (2422)
USA (ch) 150/90, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 ♕b6 5.♘f3 ♗d7 6.♗d3 cxd4 7.O-O dxc3

7...♗b5 - 102/198

8.♘xc3



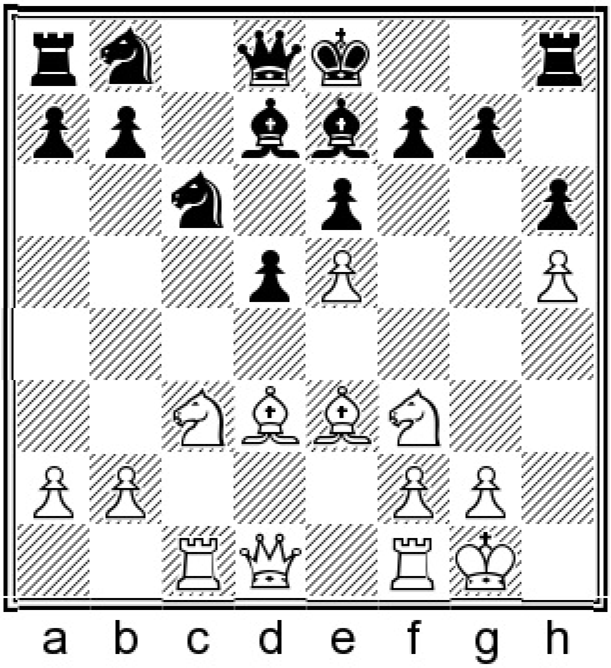
8...♘e7N

8...♘c6 9.♖e1 ♘ge7 10.h4! a6 11.h5 h6 (11...♘d4!?) 12.a3 ♘a5 13.b4 ♘c4 14.♗xc4 dxc4 15.♗e3!? (15.♘d2 ♖c8 16.♘de4 ♘d5 17.♘xd5 exd5 18.♕xd5 ♗e6 19.♕d1 ♖d8 20.♕f3 ♖d3 21.♗e3 ♕c6 22.♕f4 ♗e7 23.♖ac1 b5 24.♗c5 ♗xc5 25.♘xc5 ♖d5 26.♖c3 O-O 27.♖g3 ♔h8 28.♖ee3 ♖xc5 (28...a5? 29.♖xg7! ♔xg7 30.♖g3+ ♔h7 31.♘e4+-) 29.♖g6 ♔g8∞) 15...♕c7 16.♗c5=∞; 8...♘a6

9.h4 h6 10.h5 ♕d8?

10...♘bc6

11.♗e3 ♘ec6 12.♖c1 ♗e7



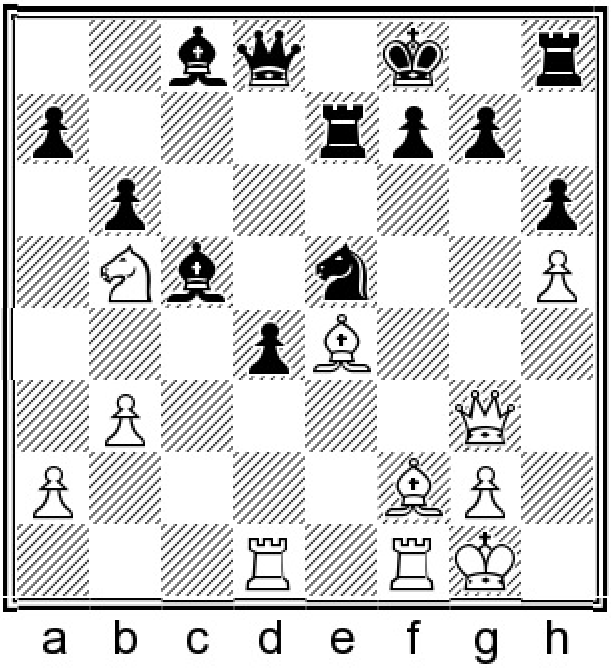
13.♗b1! ♘a5 14.♕d4?!

14.b3 ♗a3 15.♖c2 ♘a6 16.♘d4 ♘b4 17.♖d2 a6 18.♕g4→

14...♘bc6?

14...♘c4!? 15.♕g4 ♘xe3 16.♕xg7 (16.fxe3? ♕b6 17.♕xg7 ♕xe3+ 18.♔h1 ♖f8∓) 16...♘xf1 17.♕xh8+ ♗f8 18.♖xf1±

15.♕g4 ♔f8 16.b3 ♖c8 17.♘e2 b6 18.♖cd1 ♖c7 19.♕g3 ♗c8 20.♘fd4 ♘xd4 21.♘xd4 ♘c6 22.♘b5 ♖d7 23.f4 d4 24.♗f2 ♗c5 25.f5 exf5 26.♗xf5 ♖e7 27.♗e4 ♘xe5



28.b4! ♗xb4 29.♖xd4 1-0

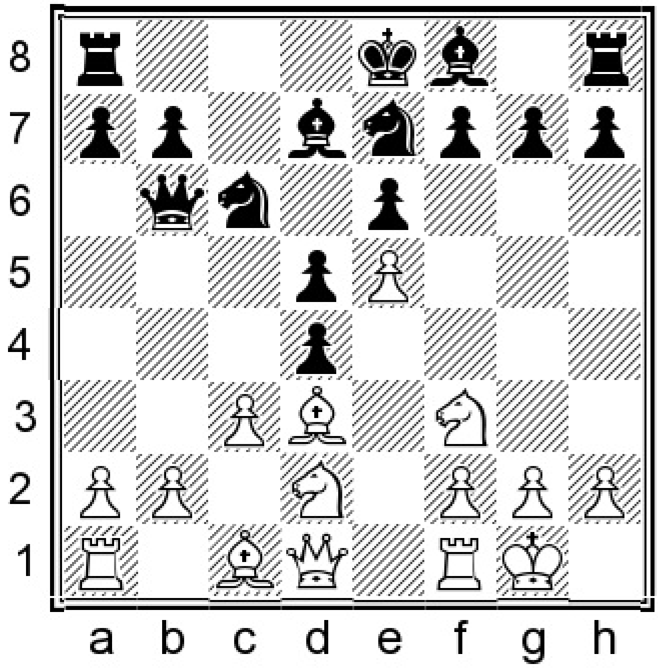
91. * C02**
Kryvoruchko, Yuriy (2689) - Christiansen, Johan Sebastian (2609)
Struga 150/91, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 ♕b6 5.♘f3 ♘c6 6.♗d3 cxd4 7.O-O

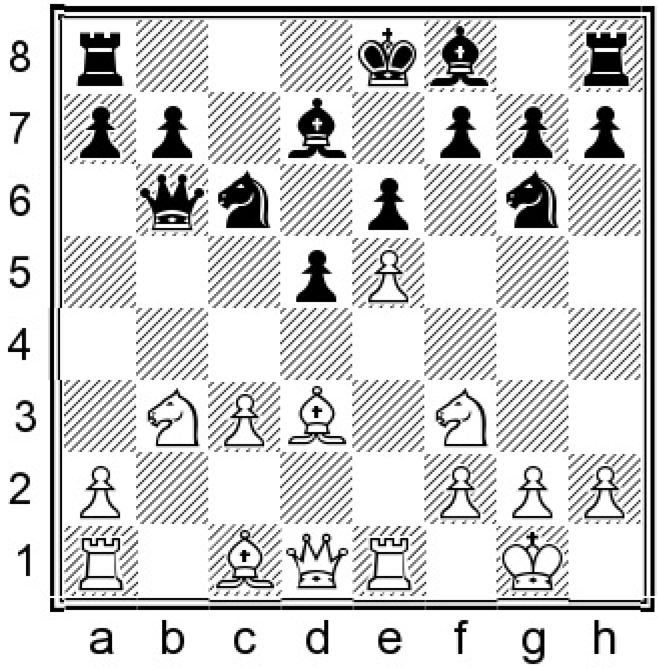
7.cxd4 - 61/(272)

7...♗d7 8.♖e1

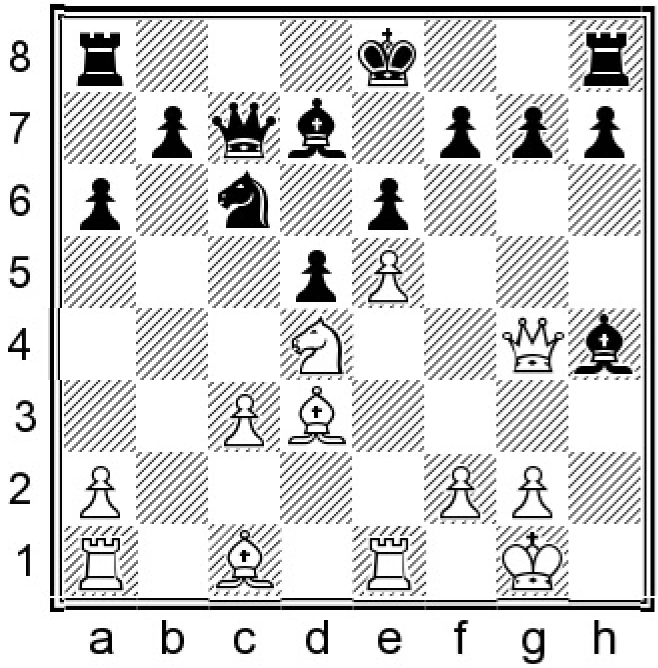
8.♘bd2 ♘ge7



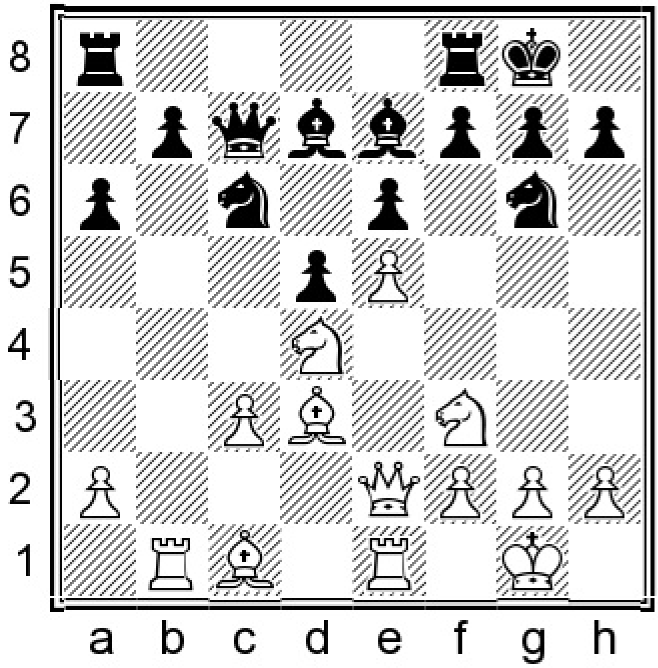
(8...dxc3 9.bxc3 ♘ge7∞) 9.♘b3!?N (9.cxd4) 9...dxc3 10.bxc3 ♘g6 11.♖e1



11...♗e7 - 150/(91) (11...♕c7N 12.♕e2 ♗e7 13.♘bd4 a6 14.h4?! (14.♖b1 ♘xd4 15.cxd4 ♗b5 16.♗xb5+ axb5 17.♕xb5+ ♕d7 18.♕xd7+ ♔xd7 19.♖xb7+ ♔c6 20.♖b2 ♖hb8=∞) 14...♘xh4 15.♘xh4 ♗xh4 16.♕g4



16...♗e7?! (16...♘xd4! 17.cxd4 ♕c3∓) 17.♕xg7 O-O-O∞ Blomqvist,E (2535)-Jaskolka,T (2220) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(91) 2021) 12.♖b1 (12.g3 ♕c7 13.♕e2 O-O 14.h4!? (14.♘bd4 ♘cxe5! 15.♘xe5 ♘xe5 16.♗f4 (16.♕xe5 ♕xc3 17.♘f5 ♗f6∓) 16...f6 17.♕h5 g6 18.♗xe5 ♕xe5 19.♖xe5 gxh5 20.♖xh5 ♖f7∓) 14...f6 15.♗xg6 hxg6 16.♗f4 fxe5 17.♗xe5 (17.♘xe5?! ♖xf4 18.gxf4 ♘xe5 19.fxe5 ♕xc3∓) 17...♘xe5 18.♘xe5 ♖f6=) 12...♕c7 13.♕e2 O-O 14.♘bd4 a6



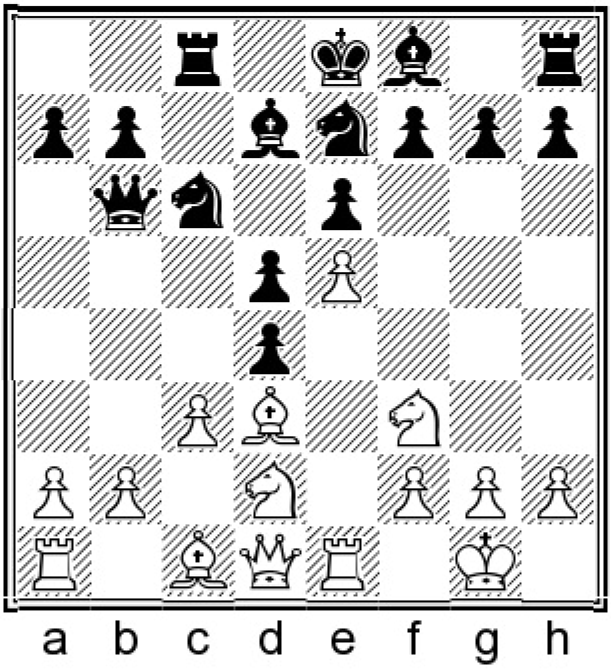
(14...♖fc8 15.h4 ♘f8 16.h5 h6 17.g4 ♘h7 18.♗f4 ♘a5 19.♖ec1 a6∞) 15.g3 (15.h4!±) 15...♘xd4

16.cxd4 ♗b5= Blomqvist,E (2535)-Iskusnyh,S (2473) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(91) 2021

8...♖c8

8...♘ge7 9.h4 ♖c8 (9...h6 - 103/187) 10.♘bd2 dxc3 11.bxc3 ♘a5 12.♖b1 ♕c7 13.♗a3!? ♕xc3 14.♘b3 ♘xb3 15.♖xb3 ♕a5 16.♕e2=∞

9.♘bd2 ♘ge7



9...dxc3

10.♘b3N

10.♖b1 - 150/(91) 10...♘g6 11.♘b3 dxc3 12.bxc3 ♕c7 13.♘bd4 a6 (13...♘cxe5? 14.♘xe5 ♘xe5 15.♗f4 ♗d6 16.♗b5! ♘c6 17.♗xc6 bxc6 18.♗xd6 ♕xd6 19.♘f5± Perunovic,Milos) 14.♕e2↑ ♗e7 15.g3 (15.h4!?) 15...O-O 16.h4 b5 17.♘xc6 ♕xc6 18.h5 ♘h8 19.♕c2 g6 Hector, J (2465)-Brynell,S (2422) Malmoe 150/(91) 2021 (19...g6 20.♕e2 ♕xc3 21.♘h2 Δ Ng4± Jacimovic,Dragoljub)

10...dxc3 11.bxc3 ♘a5

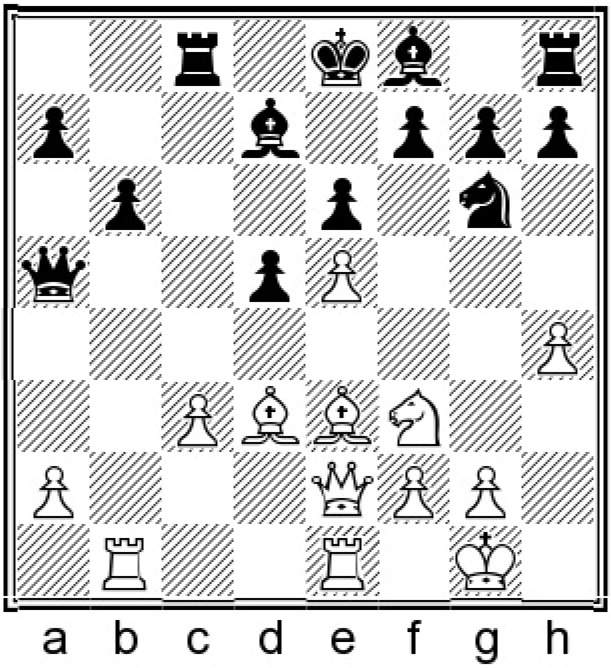
11...♘g6 12.h4!? ♕c7 13.♕e2 ♗e7 14.h5 ♘h4 15.♘xh4 ♗xh4 16.♕g4 ♘xe5 17.♖xe5 ♗xf2+ 18.♔xf2 ♕xe5 19.♗d2 O-O 20.♖e1 ♕c7 21.♘d4±

12.♗e3 ♕c7 13.♘xa5 ♕xa5 14.♖b1 b6

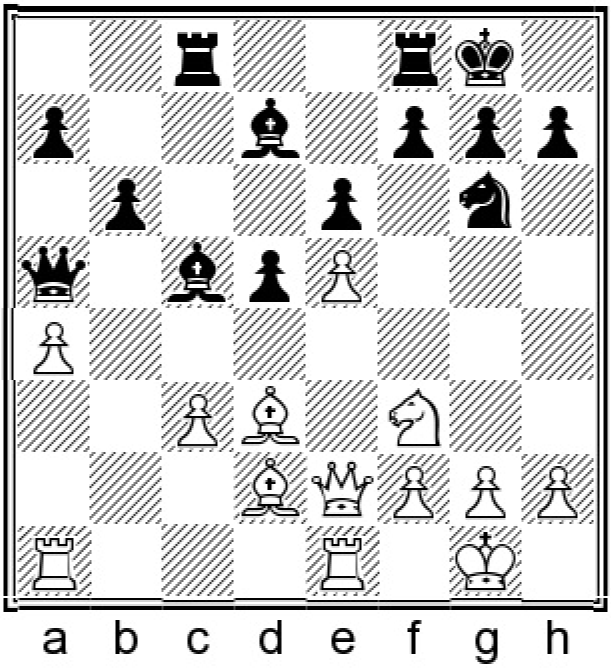
14...♖c7 15.a4! ♗xa4 (15...♘c6 16.♗d2 ♕c5 17.♕e2 ♗e7 18.♖ec1=∞) 16.♕e2 ♘c8 17.♖a1 b5 18.♘d4 a6 19.♗d2 ♕b6 20.♖eb1±

15.♕e2 ♘f5?

15...♘g6 16.h4



(16.♗d2 ♕a4 17.♘d4 ♗e7 18.♕h5∞; 16.a4 ♗c5 17.♗d2 O-O (17...♕xa4 18.♖a1 ♕c6 19.h4∞) 18.♖a1



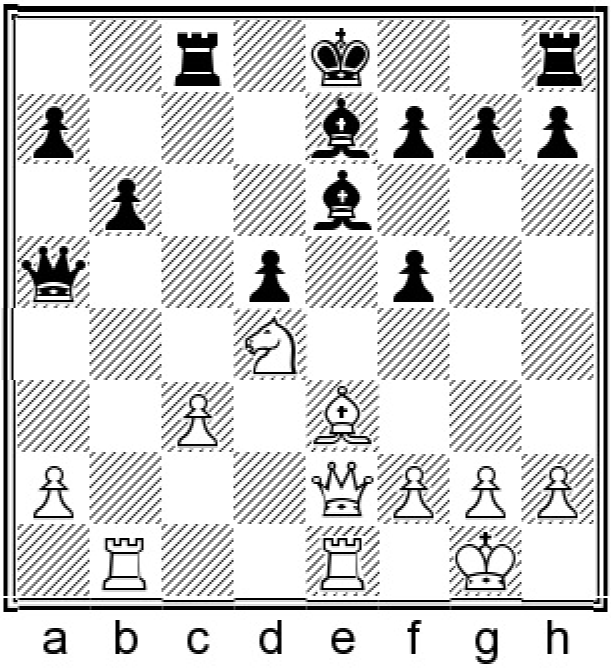
18...d4! 19.cxd4 ♗b4=) 16...♕a4! 17.c4! dxc4 18.♗c2 ♕a5 19.♖ed1 ♗a4 20.h5 ♘e7 21.♕d2 c3 22.♕d4 ♗c6 23.♕g4∞ Perunovic,Milos

15...♘c6 16.a4! ♗e7 17.♗b5 O-O 18.♗d2∞

16.♗xf5 exf5 17.e6!+- ♗xe6

RR17...fxe6 18.♘e5 ♗d6 (18...♕a4 19.♕h5++-) 19.♕h5+ ♔d8 20.♗g5+ ♔c7 21.♘xd7 ♔xd7 22.♕f7+ ♔c6 23.♖xe6+- Perunovic,Milos

18.♘d4 ♗e7



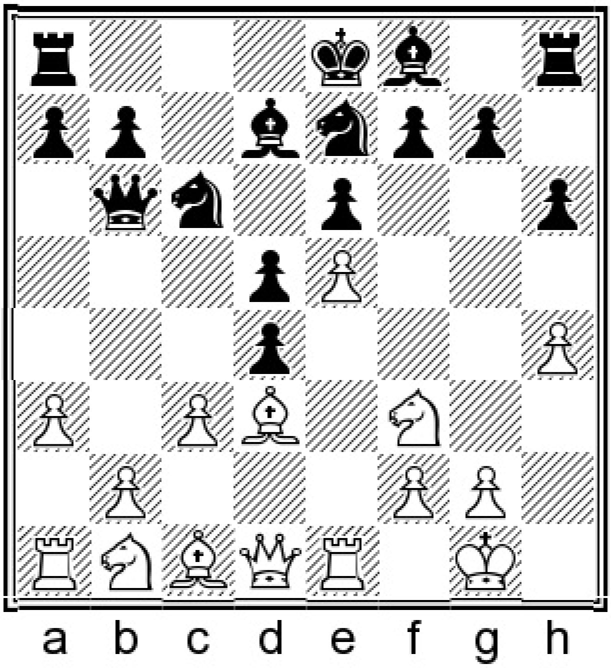
19.♗g5! ♕c5

RR19...♗xg5 20.♘xe6 fxe6 21.♕xe6++- Perunovic,Milos

20.♘xe6 fxe6 21.♕xe6 ♖c7 22.♖bd1 ♖d7 23.♖e5 h6 24.♕g6+ ♔f8 25.♕xf5+ ♔e8 26.♗xe7 ♖xe7 27.♖de1 1-0

92. * C02
Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2763) - Ponkratov, Pavel (2659)
Riga 150/92, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 ♘c6 5.♘f3 ♕b6 6.♗d3 cxd4 7.O-O ♗d7 8.♖e1 ♘ge7 9.h4 h6 10.a3!?



10.h5 - 103/187

10...♖c8N

10...dxc3 - 150/(92) 11.♘xc3 ♘c8 12.b4 ♗e7 13.♗f4 (13.♘e2!?↑) 13...♕d8 14.h5 ♘b6 15.♖c1↑ Kozak,A (2517)-Seo,J (2469) chess.com (ol-rapid) 150/(92) 2021

11.b4 a6 12.♗b2 g5

12...♘f5 13.♗xf5 (13.cxd4!? ♘fxd4 14.♘xd4 ♘xd4 15.♘c3 ♘c6 (15...♗e7?! 16.♕g4) 16.♕e2=∞; 13.h5!?=∞) 13...exf5 14.cxd4 ♗e7 15.♘c3 ♗e6 16.♘a4 ♕b5 17.♖e3∞

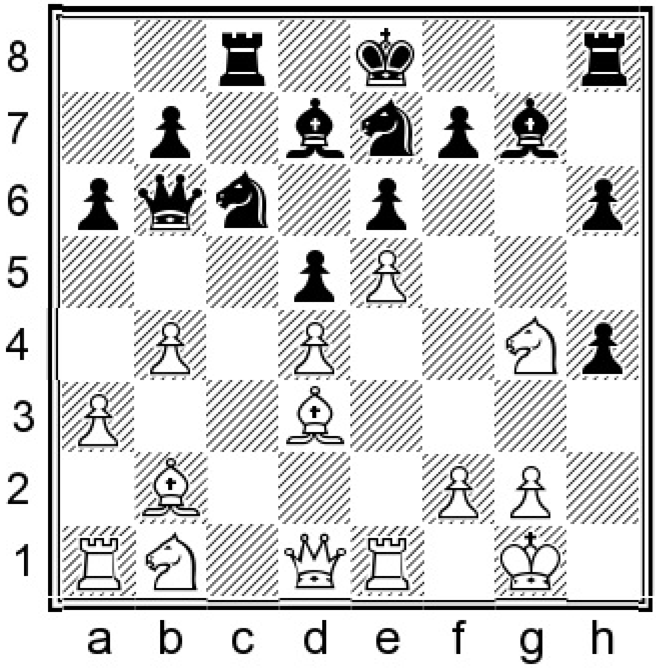
13.♘h2!?

13.h5!? g4 14.♘xd4 g3! 15.fxg3 ♖g8 16.♘d2 ♗g7 (16...♖xg3 17.♘f3⩲) 17.♘f3∞

13...♗g7

13...gxh4! 14.♕h5 (14.♘g4 ♘g8!∞) 14...♖g8 15.♘g4 ♔d8 16.♘f6 ♖g3! 17.♕xf7 ♔c7 18.a4! ♖g7 (18...♖xd3 19.a5 ♕b5 (19...♕a7?! 20.b5! axb5 21.♗a3 ♖d8 22.♗d6+ ♔c8 23.♘a3 ♕a6 24.♖ab1→) 20.♘a3 ♕a4 21.♘xd7 ♔xd7 22.♘c4 ♕b5 23.♘d6 dxc3 24.♗xc3 ♖xc3 25.♘xb5 axb5 26.a6!↑) 19.♕h5 ♖g5 20.a5! ♘xa5 21.♕xh4∞

14.♘g4 gxh4 15.cxd4



15...h5?

15...♘xd4 16.♘d2 ♘df5 17.♕f3=∞

16.♘f6+ ♗xf6 17.exf6 ♘g8 18.♕f3 ♖h6?

18...♘xd4? 19.♕e3+-; 18...♕d8 19.♕xd5 ♘xf6 20.♕f3 ♖g8 21.d5 e5 22.♘c3! (22.dxc6 ♗xc6

23.♖xe5+ ♔f8 24.♕e3 ♖xg2+ 25.♔f1 ♖g7⯹) 22...♗g4 23.♕e3 ♘xd5 24.♘xd5 ♕xd5 25.♗e4±

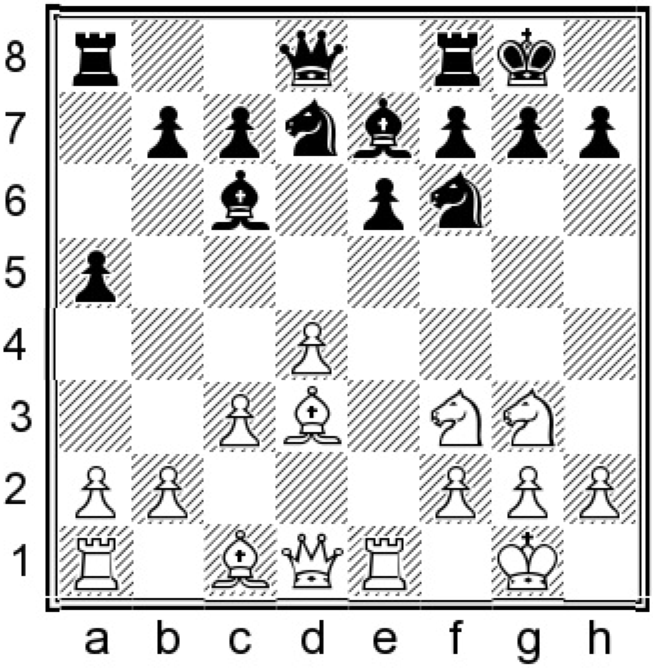
19.♕xd5+- ♘xf6 20.♕g5 ♘g4 21.♘c3 ♕d8

21...♕xd4 22.♘d5! ♕xf2+ 23.♔h1+-

22.♕xd8+ ♔xd8 23.♘e4 e5 24.f3 ♘xd4 25.fxg4 hxg4 26.♘g5 1-0

93. C10
Zilka, Stepan (2593) - Markus, Robert (2609)
Terme Catez 150/93, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 dxe4 4.♘xe4 ♗d7 5.♘f3 ♗c6 6.♗d3 ♘d7 7.O-O ♘gf6 8.♘g3 ♗e7 9.♖e1 O-O 10.c3 a5



10...♗xf3 - 80/291

11.h4N

11.♗f4

11...a4 12.h5 h6 13.♗c2 ♖e8 14.♕d3 ♗xf3 15.♕xf3 c6 16.♗f4 ♕a5 17.♖ad1?!

17.♕e2 ♗d8 (17...♕a6 18.♗d3 ♕b6 19.♖ad1±) 18.♖ad1 ♗c7∞

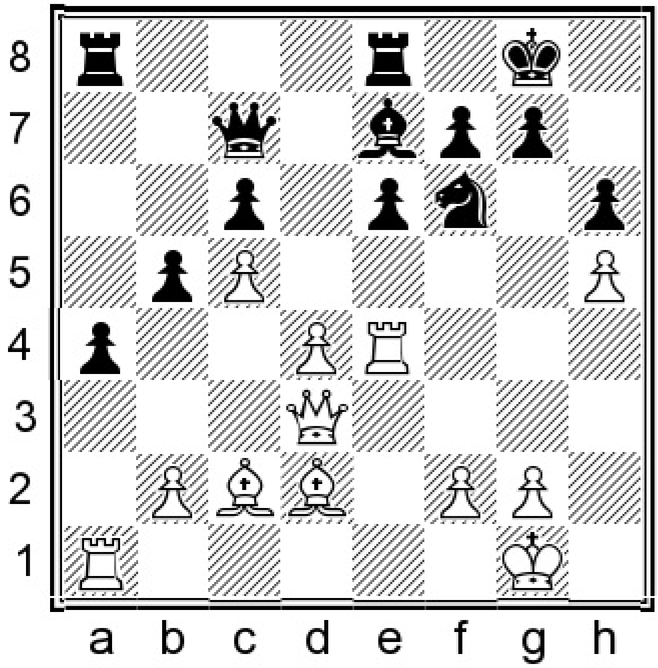
17...♕d5 18.♕d3 ♕xa2 19.♖a1 ♕d5 20.c4 ♕a5 21.♗d2 ♕c7 22.♘e4

22.♖xa4 ♖xa4 23.♗xa4 ♗d6∓

22...b5 23.c5 ♘xe4

23...♖ed8∓

24.♖xe4 ♘f6



24...♗g5! 25.f4 ♗f6 26.g4 ♖ad8 27.♕e3 ♘xc5! 28.dxc5 ♗xb2∓

25.♖g4! ♗xc5?

25...♔f8 26.♗f4 ♕d8 27.♖g3 ♖a7 28.♗e5 ♖d7 29.♕e3→ (29.♖xg7 ♗xc5 30.♖h7 ♗xd4 31.♗d6+ ♖xd6 32.♖xf7+ ♔xf7 33.♕g6+ ♔f8 34.♕xh6+ ♔f7 35.♕g6+=)25...♗f8 26.♗xh6 (26.♖f4 e5 27.♖xf6 e4 28.♕e2 gxf6 29.♕g4+ ♔h8 30.♗xe4 ♖ad8 31.♕f5 ♖xe4 32.♕xe4 ♕d7∞; 26.♖g3 e5∞) 26...g6! 27.♗xf8 ♔xf8 28.♖h4 g5∞

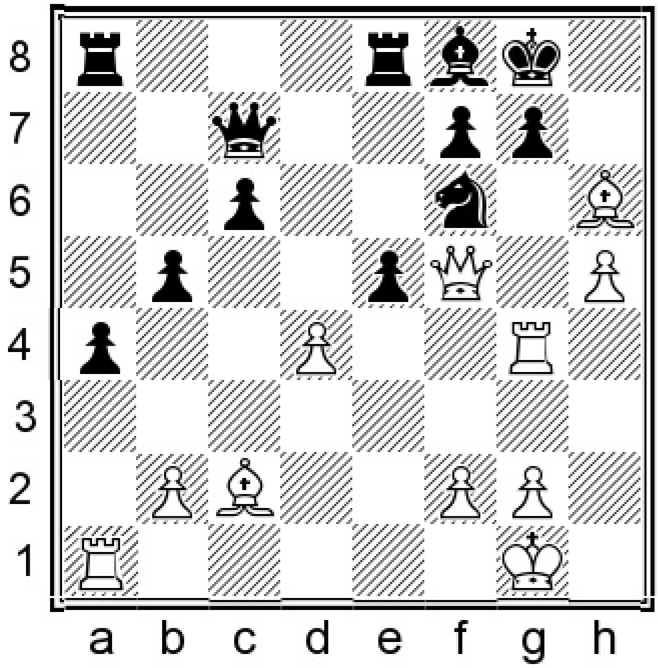
26.♗f4!

26.♗xh6 ♘xg4 (26...♗f8 27.♗g5+-) 27.♕h7+ ♔f8 28.♕xg7+ ♔e7 29.♕xg4 ♗d6 30.♕f3 f5 31.g4±

26...e5 27.♗xh6!+- ♗f8

27...♘xg4 28.♕h7+ ♔f8 29.♗xg7+ ♔e7 30.dxc5+-

28.♕f5??



28.♗xg7! ♗xg7 29.h6 ♘xg4 30.♕h7+ ♔f8 31.hxg7+ ♔e7 32.♕h4+ ♘f6 33.♖e1 ♕d8 34.♖xe5+ ♔d7 35.♖xe8 ♔xe8 (35...♕xe8 36.♕xf6 ♔c7 37.♗h7+-) 36.♕xf6 ♕xf6 37.g8=Q+ ♔d7 38.♕xa8 ♕xd4 39.♗f5++-

28...♕c8!-+

28...♕d7?! 29.♕xd7 ♘xd7 30.♗xg7 ♗xg7 31.h6±

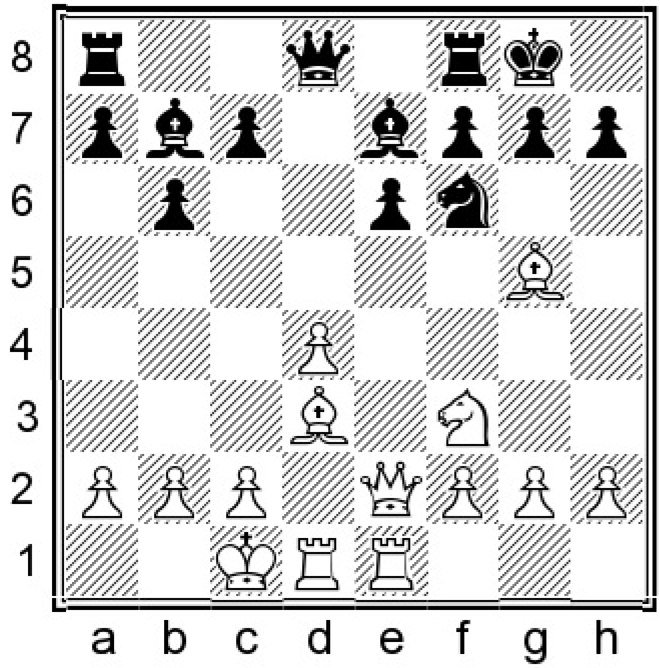
29.♖g5 ♕xf5 30.♖xf5 exd4 31.♗g5 ♘e4 32.♗h4 ♘c5 33.♖d1 ♖e2 0-1

94. C10
Shuvalova, Polina (2509) - Bivol, Alina (2392)
Russia (ch) 150/94, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 dxe4 4.♘xe4 ♘d7 5.♘f3 ♘gf6 6.♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7.♗e3 ♗d6 8.♗d3 O-O 9.♕e2 b6 10.O-O-O ♗b7 11.♗g5

11.♔b1 - 149/86

11...♗e7 12.♖he1



12...c5N

12...♕d5

13.dxc5 ♕c8 14.♘e5

14.cxb6 axb6 15.♔b1 ♖a4!? Δ Qa8

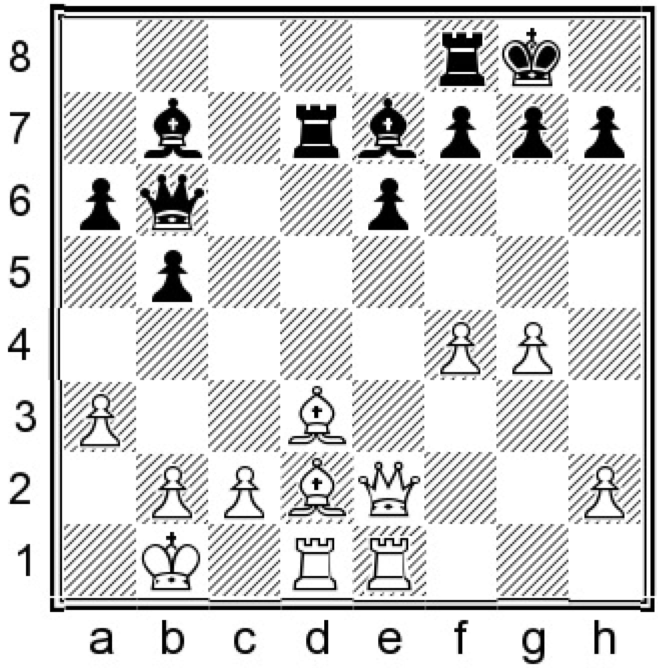
14...♕xc5 15.♔b1 ♖ad8 16.a3 a6 17.♗d2 b5 18.f4

18.g4!→

18...♕b6 19.g4 ♘d7

19...♗c5 20.g5 ♘d5 21.h4 b4 22.♘c4 ♕c7 23.g6 fxg6 24.♕xe6+ ♔h8 25.♕e5±

20.♘xd7 ♖xd7



21.♗a5! ♕xa5 22.♗xh7+ ♔xh7 23.♖xd7 ♗h4 24.♖ed1 ♗c6 25.♖7d6

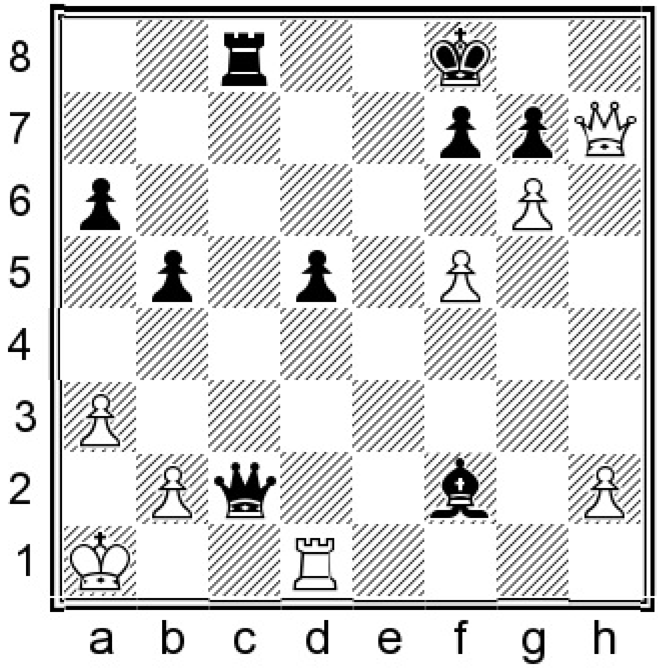
25.♖7d3! ♔g8 26.♖h3 ♗e7 27.g5 ♖d8 28.♖f1 ♗d6 29.♕h5 ♔f8 30.f5 exf5 31.g6

25...♗d5?

25...♕c7! 26.g5 ♔g8 27.♕h5 ♗e4∓

26.g5 ♔g8 27.♕h5 ♖c8

27...♗f2 28.f5! ♕c7 29.♖6xd5 exd5 30.g6 ♖c8 31.♔a1!? ♕xc2 32.♕h7+ ♔f8



33.f6!! ♕xd1+ 34.♔a2 ♔e8 35.fxg7 ♔d7 36.♕h3+ ♔c7 (36...♔e7 37.♕xc8+-) 37.gxf7+-

28.♖d7!

28.♕xh4? ♕c7∞

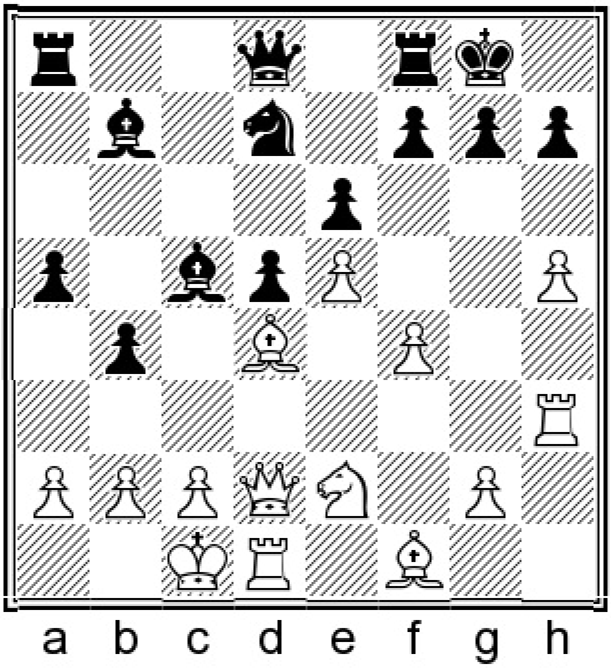
28...g6 29.♕xh4+- b4 30.♖7xd5 exd5 31.axb4 ♕xb4 32.♖xd5 a5 33.♖d3 ♕c5 34.♖d2 ♖b8 35.♕g3 a4 36.♕d3 a3 37.b3 a2+ 38.♔xa2 ♖a8+ 39.♔b1 ♕g1+ 40.♖d1 ♕xh2 41.♕e4 ♖c8 42.♖d4 ♕f2 43.♖c4 ♖d8 44.♔b2 ♕a7 45.♕e5 ♕g1 46.♕a5 ♖d1 47.♖c8+ ♔h7 48.♕e5 1-0

95. C11
Ponkratov, Pavel (2659) - Zvjaginsev, Vadim (2609)
Riga 150/95, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.e5 ♘fd7 5.f4 c5 6.♘f3 ♘c6 7.♗e3 cxd4 8.♘xd4 ♗c5 9.♕d2 a6 10.h4 O-O 11.O-O-O ♘xd4 12.♗xd4 b5 13.h5 ♗b7 14.♖h3 b4 15.♘e2

15.♘a4 - 57/290

15...a5



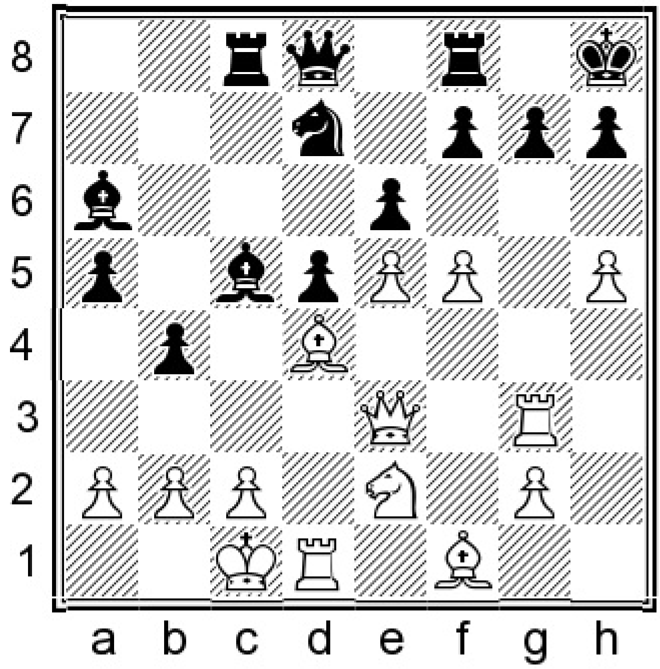
16.♕e3N

16.♖g3

16...♖c8 17.♖g3

17.f5

17...♔h8 18.f5 ♗a6



19.♗xc5

19.h6! g6 20.♘f4 ♗xf1 (20...♕c7 21.♖d2 ♗xd4 (21...♗xf1? 22.fxe6 ♗xd4 23.♕xd4 fxe6 24.♘xe6 ♕xe5 25.♘xf8 ♕xd4 26.♖xd4 ♘xf8 27.♖xd5±) 22.♕xd4 ♗b7 23.fxe6 fxe6 24.♖f3±) 21.fxe6! ♗xd4 22.♕xd4 ♖c4 23.♕xd5 ♖xf4 24.exd7 ♗c4 25.♕c5 ♔g8 26.b3 ♗e6 27.♖gd3↑

19...♘xc5 20.♘d4

20.h6 g6 21.fxe6 fxe6 22.♖f3 ♖xf3 23.gxf3 ♗xe2 24.♗xe2 ♕h4∞

20...♗xf1 21.♖xf1 ♕h4

21...♘e4 22.♖gf3 exf5 23.e6 (23.♖xf5 ♕e7∓) 23...a4! 24.♖xf5 f6∞

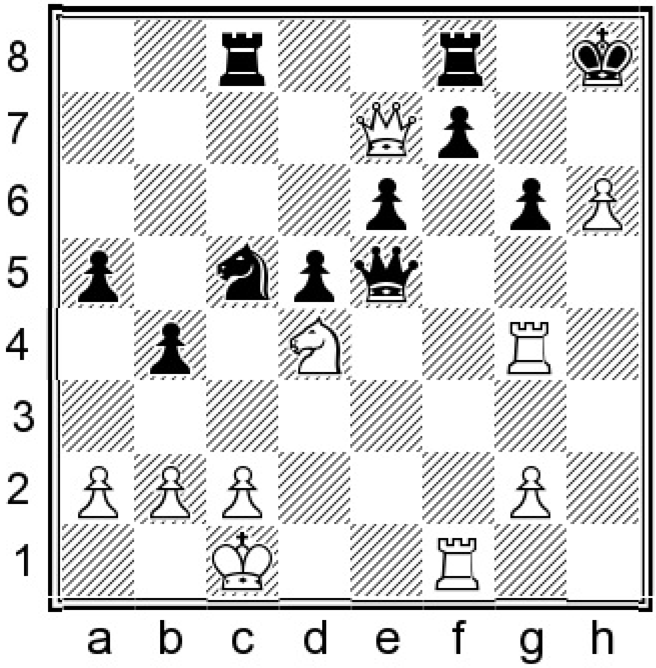
22.♖h3 ♕g4 23.h6 g6 24.fxg6?!

24.fxe6 ♕xg2 25.♖g1 (25.♖hf3 ♘xe6∞) 25...♕e4 26.exf7 ♖xf7∞; 24.♖g3 ♕h4 25.♖h3 ♕g4=

24...hxg6 25.♖g3 ♕e4?

25...♕h4! 26.♖gf3 a4 27.♔b1 ♕e7∓

26.♕g5 ♘d7 27.♖g4 ♕xe5 28.♕e7 ♘c5??



28...♕e3+ 29.♔b1 e5 30.♕xd7 exd4 31.♕d6 (31.♕xd5? ♖xc2!-+) 31...♕e6 32.♕f4 d3 33.♕d4+ f6 34.♖xg6 dxc2+ 35.♔c1∓

29.♘c6!+- ♘d3+ 30.♔d2 ♕xb2 31.♖d4 ♖g8

31...♕c3+ 32.♔e2 ♕xc2+ 33.♔e3+-

32.♕f6+ ♔h7 33.♕xf7+ ♔h8 34.♕f6+ ♔h7 35.♕e7+ ♔h8 36.h7 ♕c3+ 37.♔e2 ♕xc2+ 38.♔e3 1-0

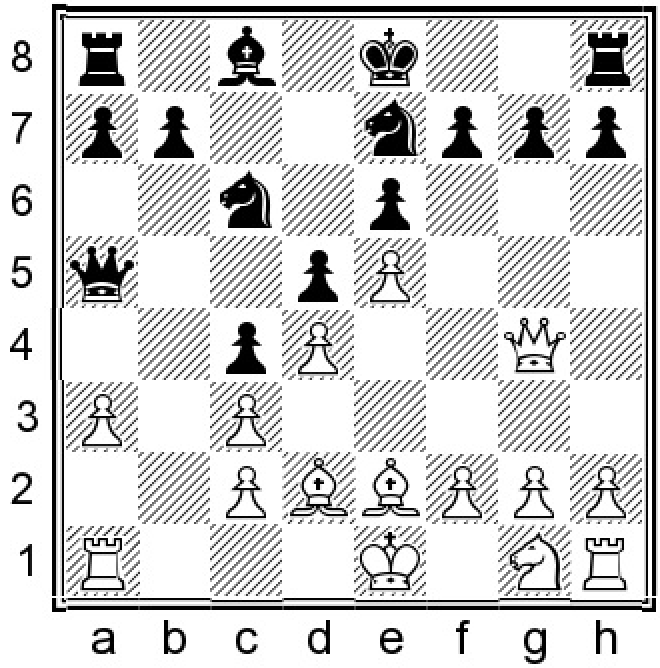
96. !N C18
Chigaev, Maksim (2639) - Ponkratov, Pavel (2659)
Russia (ch) 150/96, 2021

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 ♗xc3+ 6.bxc3 ♘c6 7.♗d3

7.♘f3 - 107/(243)

7.♕g4 - 149/94

7...♕a5 8.♗d2 c4 9.♕g4 ♘ge7 10.♗e2



10...♖g8!N

10...♘f5; 10...♗d7

11.h4 ♗d7 12.h5 O-O-O 13.♘f3 f6 14.♕f4?

14.♕g3 ♘f5 15.♕h2 ♘h6!? Δ Nf7, ×e5

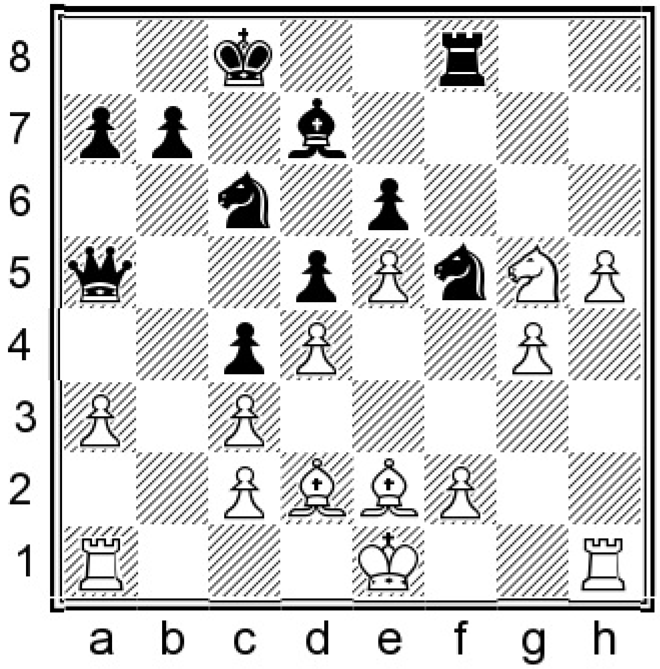
14...g5! 15.♕xf6

15.hxg6 ♘xg6 16.♕xf6 (16.♕h2 fxe5 17.♘xe5 ♘gxe5 18.dxe5 ♕a4∓) 16...♖df8 17.♕g5 ♘gxe5∓

15...♖df8 16.♕h6 ♘f5 17.♕xh7 ♖g7 18.♕xg7 ♘xg7 19.♘xg5

19.g4 ♕b6 20.h6 ♘e8 21.♗e3 ♘c7 Δ Be8∓

19...♘f5 20.g4


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

20...♘fe7

20...♘fxd4!! 21.cxd4 ♕b6 22.c3 ♘xd4! 23.cxd4 ♕xd4 24.♖c1 ♕xf2+ 25.♔d1 ♗a4+-+

21.♘h7 ♖h8 22.♘f6 ♕a4 23.♔d1?

23.♖c1 ♕xa3 24.g5⇄

23...b5! 24.♔c1 b4 25.♗d1 bxa3 26.h6

26.♖a2 ♔c7!-+ Δ Rb8, Qb5, ×Kc1

26...a2 27.♗g5 ♕a3+ 28.♔d2 ♕b2 0-1

C25-C49

97. C28
Setti, Eduardo Niewinski - Proudian, Armen (2427)
Brazil (ch) 150/97, 2021

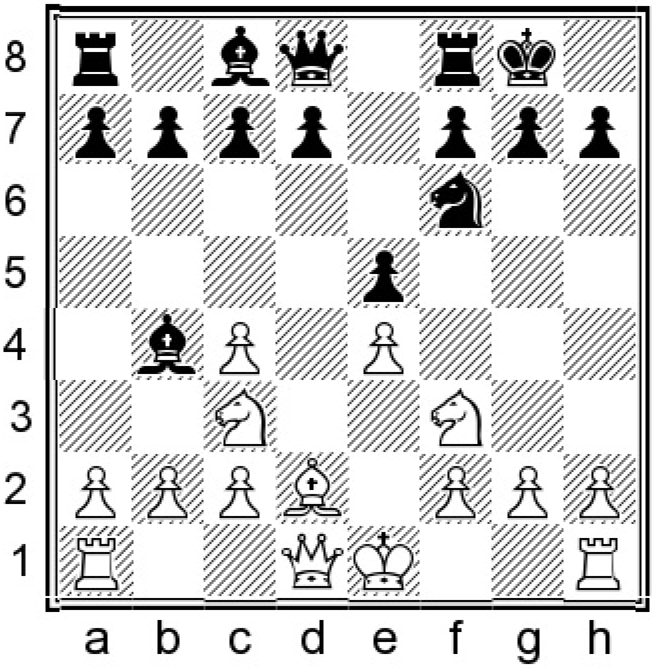
1.e4 e5 2.♗c4 ♘f6 3.♘c3 ♘c6

3...♘xe4! 4.♕h5 ♘d6 5.♗b3 ♗e7 (5...♘c6? 6.♘b5!±) 6.♕xe5 O-O∞

4.d3 ♘a5! 5.♘f3?!

5.♕f3!?; 5.♘ge2 - 101/208

5...♘xc4 6.dxc4 ♗b4↑ 7.♗d2 O-O



8.♘d5?!N

8.♕e2

8...♘xd5

8...♗xd2+ 9.♘xd2 ♘xd5 10.cxd5 d6∓

9.cxd5 ♗d6?

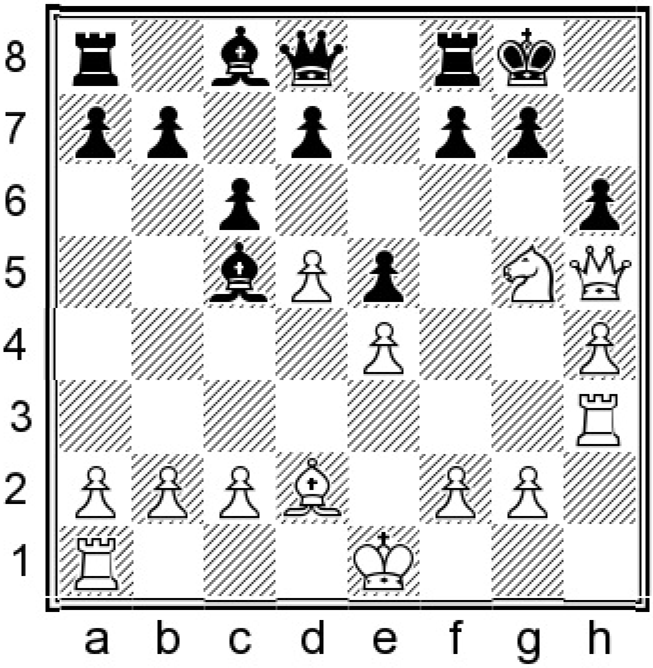
9...♗c5 10.O-O (10.♘xe5? ♖e8 11.♘c4 ♖xe4+ 12.♘e3 ♕f6!?∓) 10...d6∓

10.h4 c6

10...♗c5∓

11.♗g5?!

11.♘g5?! ♗c5 (11...h6!?) 12.♕h5 h6 13.♖h3



13...♕e8! (13...d6? 14.♖g3! hxg5 15.hxg5 g6 16.♕h6 ♕e7 17.O-O-O f5 18.gxf6! ♖xf6 19.♖xg6+ ♖xg6 20.♕xg6+ ♕g7 21.♕e8+=) 14.♘f3 (14.O-O-O? f6 15.♕xe8 ♖xe8 16.♘f3 cxd5 17.exd5 d6 18.♖hh1 e4 19.♘h2 ♗xf2-+) 14...f6∓; 11.h5!?

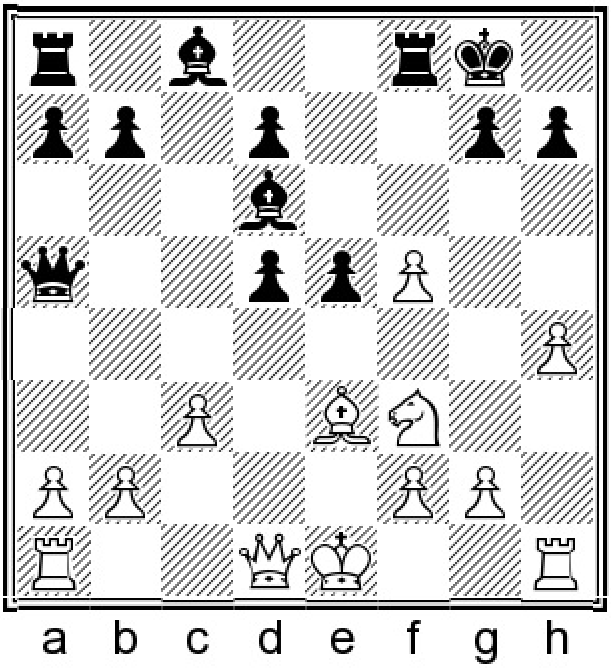
11...f6?!

11...♕c7!∓

12.♗e3 f5?!

12...♕a5+ 13.c3 cxd5 14.exd5 ♕c7!?∓

13.exf5 ♕a5+ 14.c3 cxd5?



14...♕xd5 15.♕xd5+ cxd5 16.O-O-O±

15.♘g5! h6

15...♖xf5 16.♕h5 h6 17.♕g6+-; 15...♖f6 16.a4!+- (16.♕h5!? h6 17.f4! exf4 (17...d4 18.♘e4 ♖f8 19.f6+-) 18.♗d4 ♕d8 19.O-O-O+-)15...d4 16.♕h5 h6 17.♕g6 hxg5 18.hxg5 dxe3 19.f6 (19.♖h8+ ♔xh8 20.f6+- (20.♕h5+? ♔g8 21.g6 exf2+-+)) 19...exf2+ 20.♔d2 ♕d5+ 21.♔c2 ♖f7 22.♕h7+ ♔f8 23.♕h8#

16.♕h5 ♖f6! 17.♕e8+?

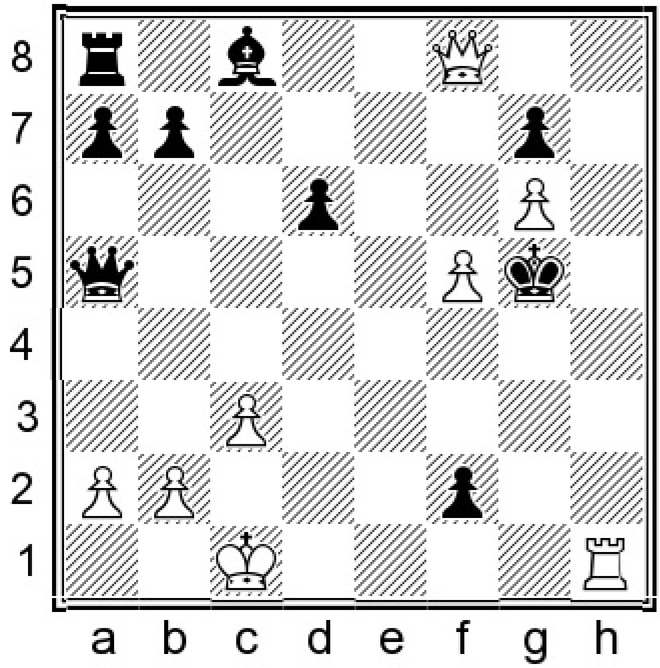
17.f4!+-

17...♗f8 18.♕xe5± d6 19.♕e8 hxg5?

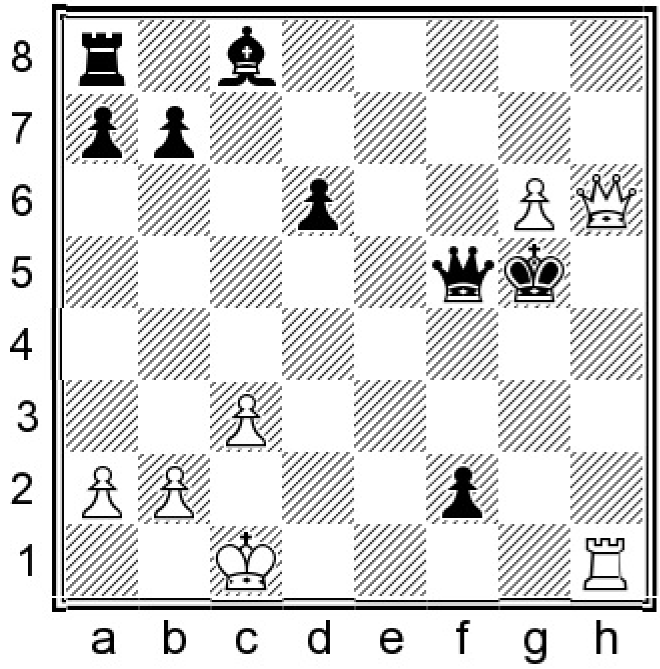
19...♖xf5!? 20.♘e6 d4!? 21.♘xd4 (21.♗xd4? ♖e5+!-+) 21...♖e5 22.♕g6 ♕d5±

20.hxg5 ♖xf5 21.g4! ♖f3

21...d4!? 22.gxf5! dxe3 23.♖h8+! (23.O-O-O+-) 23...♔xh8 24.♕xf8+ ♔h7 25.g6+ ♔h6 26.O-O-O exf2 (26...♕xf5 27.♖h1+ ♔g5 28.♖g1+ ♔f4 29.fxe3+ ♔e4 30.♕xg7 ♕e5 31.♕f8+-) 27.♖h1+ ♔g5



28.♕e7+!! (28.♕xg7? ♕xf5 29.♕h6+



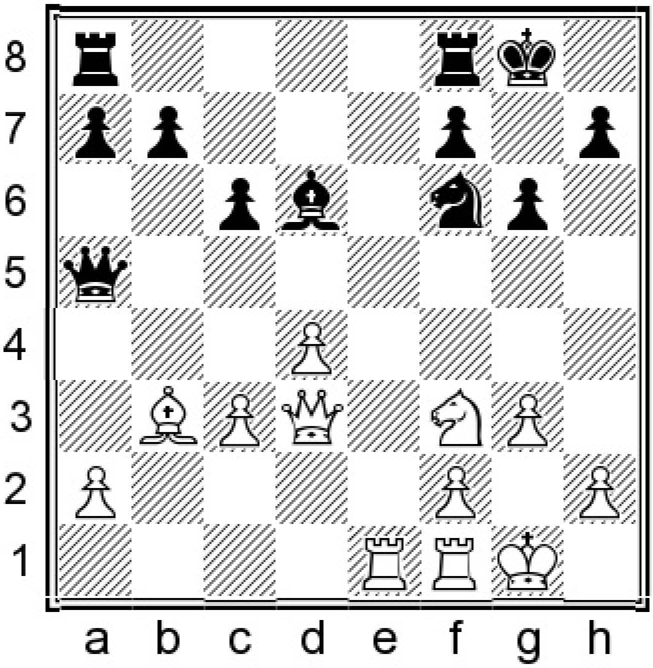
29...♔g4!!-+ (29...♔f6 30.g7+=)) 28...♔f4 29.♖h4++- ×Qa5

22.♖h8+! ♔xh8 23.♕h5+ ♔g8 24.g6 1-0

98. C42
Olsen, Thomas - Gonen, Barak
corr 150/98, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.♘xe5 d6 4.♘f3 ♘xe4 5.d4 d5 6.♗d3 ♗d6 7.O-O O-O 8.c4 c6 9.♘c3 ♘xc3 10.bxc3 dxc4 11.♗xc4 ♗f5 12.♗g5 ♕a5 13.♘h4 ♗e6 14.♗xe6 ♕xg5 15.♘f3 ♕a5 16.♗b3 ♘d7

17.♕d3 ♘f6 18.g3 g6 19.♖ae1



19...♔g7!?N

19...♖ae8 - 142/(102)

20.♘e5 c5 21.♖e2 ♖ac8 22.♖d1 cxd4 23.cxd4 ♖c7

23...♖c3 24.♕b1 ♘d5=

24.♕f3 ♕a6

24...h5 25.♔g2 ♕b4 26.a3 ♕xa3=

25.♖dd2 ♖e8 26.♔g2 ♖ee7 27.♖c2 ♖xc2 28.♖xc2 ♕b5

28...♕b6 29.♘c4 (29.♕c3 ♖c7 30.♕b2 ♖xc2 31.♕xc2 ♗xe5 32.dxe5 ♘g4=) 29...♕d8 30.♘e5 ♗xe5 31.dxe5 ♖xe5 32.♕xb7 ♖e7 33.♕b4=

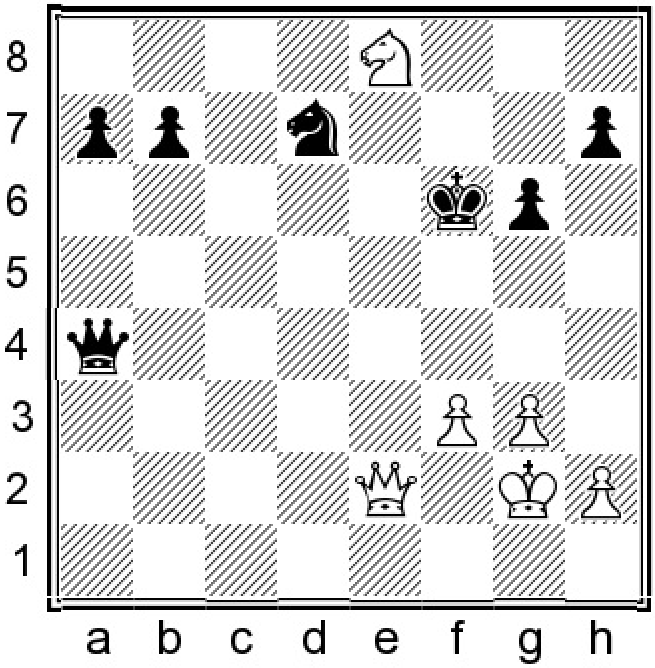
29.♖e2 ♘d7 30.a4 ♕b4

30...♕a6!?

31.♘xf7 ♖xe2 32.♕xe2 [Δ Qe6] **32...♕xb3 33.♘xd6** [Δ Qe7] **33...♕d5+ 34.♘e4 ♕xd4**

34...♘f6 35.f3 ♕xd4 36.♘g5±

35.f3 ♕xa4 36.♘d6 ♔f6 37.♘e8+



37...♔f7! [Δ Qc6] **38.♘d6+ ♔f6 39.♘e4+ ♔g7 40.♕b2+ ♔g8 41.♕xb7 ♕a2+**

41...♕c2+?! 42.♘f2 ♕a4 43.♕d5+ ♔g7 44.♘e4 ♕c2+ (44...♘f8?! 45.♕b7+ ♘d7 46.♘g5 ♕c2+ 47.♔h3=) 45.♔h3±

42.♔h3 ♘f8 43.♘f6+ ♔h8 [Δ Qe6] **44.♘e4 ♕e6+ 45.♔g2 ♕a2+ 46.♔g1 ♕a1+ 47.♔f2 ♕a2+ 48.♔g1 ♕a1+**

48...a5 49.♕c7 ♔g8=

49.♔g2 ♕a2+ 1/2-1/2

99. * C43
Firouzja, Alireza (2770) - Abasov, Nijat (2638)
Riga 150/99, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.d4 ♘xe4 4.dxe5 d5

4...♗c5 5.♗c4 (5.♕d5) 5...♘xf2 6.♗xf7+ ♔xf7 7.♕d5+ ♔g6 8.♕xc5 ♘xh1 9.♘c3 d6∞

5.♘bd2 ♗e7

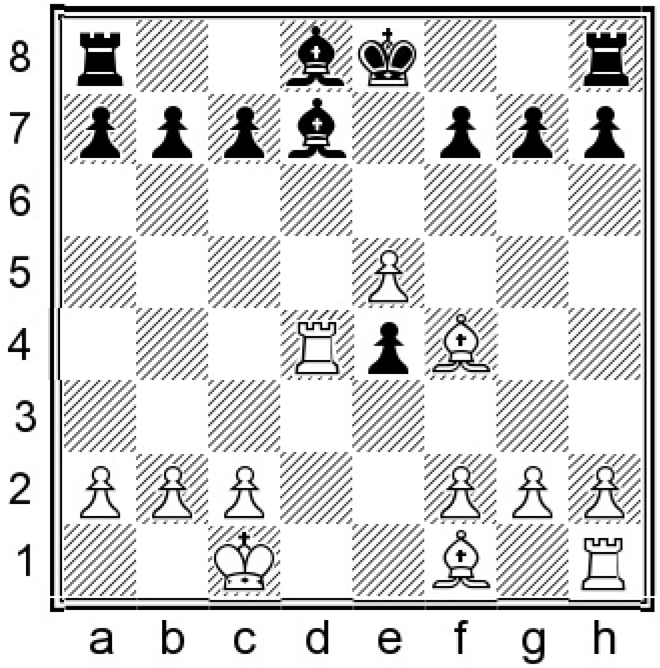
5...♘xd2 6.♗xd2 ♗e7

6.♘xe4

6.c4

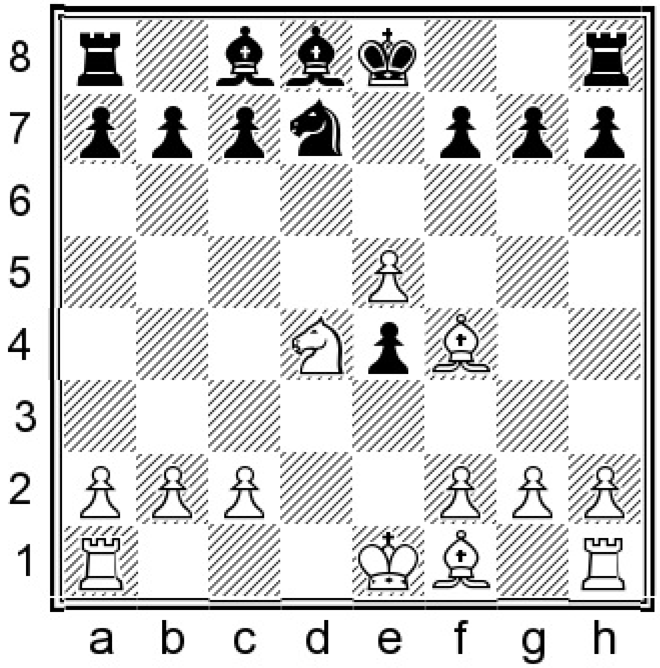
6...dxe4 7.♕xd8+ ♗xd8 8.♘d4 ♘d7

8...♗d7 9.♗f4 (9.♗c4 ♘c6 10.♘xc6 ♗xc6 11.♗e3 O-O 12.e6 fxe6 13.♗xe6+ ♔h8 14.O-O-O↑) 9...♘c6 10.O-O-O ♘xd4 (10...g5 - 88/288) 11.♖xd4



11...♗f5?N (11...♗c6 12.♗c4±) 12.♖b4! c6 (12...b6 13.♗b5+ ♗d7 14.♗a6 ♗c6 15.♖d1) 13.♖xb7 ♗b6 14.♗c4 O-O 15.♗e3+- Nasuta,G (2518)-Nurkiewicz,M (2342) Suwalki 150/(99) 2021

9.♗f4



9...♘c5?!N

9...O-O 10.O-O-O c6 (10...♖e8 11.e6 fxe6 12.♘b5 e5 13.♗c4+ ♔f8 14.♗e3±) 11.e6 ♘b6 12.♗d6 ♗g5+ 13.♔b1 ♖e8 14.exf7+ ♔xf7 15.♗e2 ♗f6 16.♖he1 g6 17.♘b3 ♘a4 18.c3 ♔g7 19.♘d4 h5 20.h3 ♘b6 21.♖g1 ♘d5=

10.O-O-O c6 11.♗c4 ♗e7

11...♗b6 12.♗e3 a5 13.h3±

12.♖he1 a5 13.h3 h5 [Δ h4, Rh5]

13...h6 14.a3 a4 15.♘e2±

14.a3 ♗d7

14...h4 15.♗e2 g6 16.♗d2±

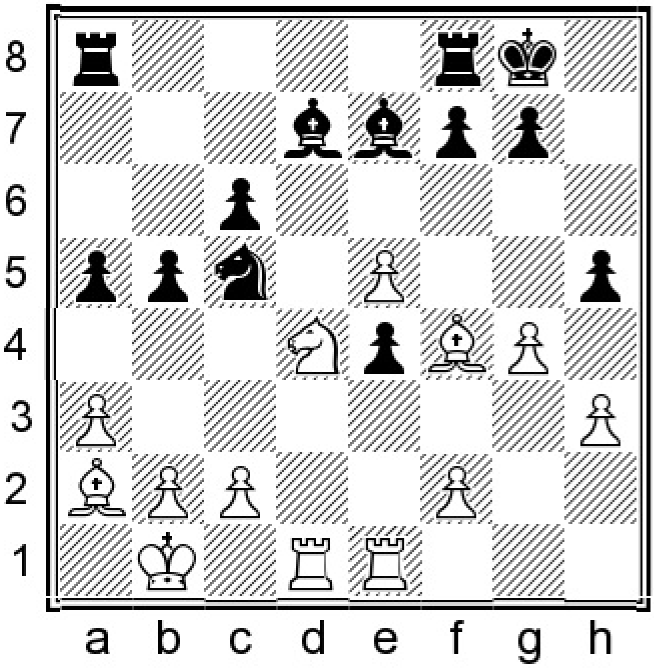
15.♔b1 b5

15...O-O 16.♗e3 ♖ad8 17.♖d2±

16.♗a2 O-O

16...h4!? 17.♗d2 ♖h5 18.b4 axb4 19.axb4 ♖a4 20.♗c3±

17.g4!



17.♗e3 ♖fd8 18.♖d2±

17...hxg4?

17...b4! 18.♗e3 ♖fd8 19.axb4 axb4 20.gxh5±

18.hxg4 ♗xg4

18...♖ad8 19.♘f5 ♗xf5 20.gxf5+-

19.♘xc6 ♖fe8

19...♗h4 20.♖d5 ♘e6 21.♗e3 ♖fc8 22.♘a7+-

20.♖d5 ♖ac8

20...♘e6 21.♗e3 ♘c7 22.♖g1 ♗e6 (22...♘xd5 23.♗xd5 ♗e6 24.♘xe7++-) 23.♖d4 ♗f8 24.♖xe4±

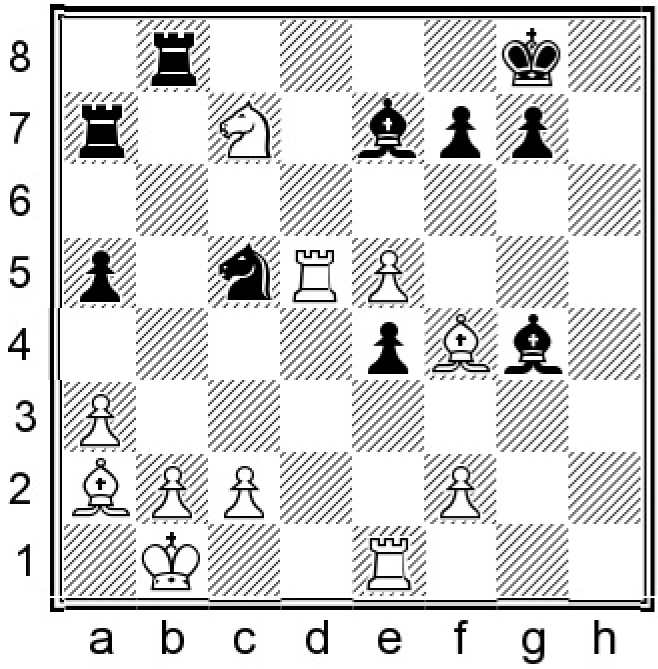
21.♘a7! ♖a8

21...b4 22.♘xc8 ♖xc8 23.♖g1 ♗f5 24.♗e3+-; 21...♖b8 22.♗e3+-

22.♘xb5 ♖eb8

22...♗e6 23.♖d2 ♖eb8 24.♘d6+-

23.♘c7 ♖a7



24.e6! ♖ab7

24...fxe6 25.♘xe6 ♖xb2+ 26.♔xb2 ♗xe6 27.♖xc5 ♖b7+ 28.♔a1+-; 24...f6 25.♖d7 ♘xd7 26.exd7+ ♔h7 (26...♔f8 27.♖h1) 27.♘d5+-

25.exf7+ ♔f8

25...♔xf7 26.♗e5 ♔f8 27.♖h1+-

26.♗e5 ♘d7 27.♖xd7

27.♖h1 ♗xa3 (27...♘xe5 28.♖d8+! ♗xd8 29.♖h8+ ♔e7 30.f8=Q++-) 28.♖h8+ ♔e7 29.♖e8+ ♔xf7 30.♖xd7+ ♔g6 31.♖xg7+ ♔f5 32.♖xb8 ♖xb8 33.♗d4+-

27...♗xd7 28.♖h1

28.♖h1 ♗xa3 29.♖h8+ ♔e7 30.♘d5+ ♔xf7 31.♘f4+ ♗e6 32.♗xe6+ ♔e7 33.♖xb8+-

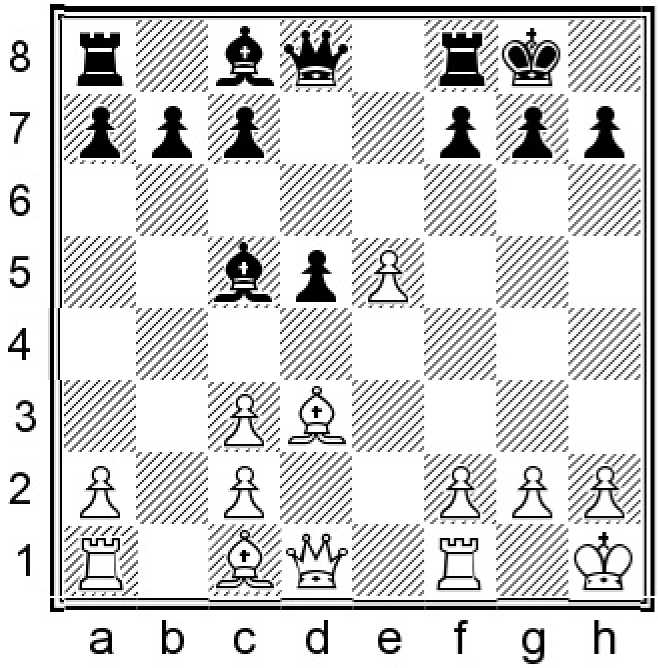
1-0

100. C43
Esipenko, Andrey (2720) - Moussard, Jules (2632)
Riga 150/100, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.d4 ♘xe4 4.♗d3 d5 5.♘xe5 ♘d7 6.♘c3 ♘xc3 7.bxc3 ♘xe5 8.dxe5 ♗c5 9.O-O O-O

9...c6 - 58/340

10.♔h1



10...♕e7N

10...c6

11.f4 f6 12.exf6

12.♕h5!? g6 (12...f5 13.a4 ♗e6 14.a5 c6 15.♕h3 g6 16.♗e3±) 13.exf6 gxh5 14.fxe7 ♗xe7 15.♖b1±

12...♕xf6 13.f5 ♗d7 14.♕h5 h6 15.♗d2?!

15.♗f4 c6 16.c4 ♗xf5 17.♗e5 ♕xe5 18.♗xf5 ♗d6 19.g3=∞

15...♖ae8 16.♖f3 ♗d6 17.g4 ♕f7 18.♕h3?

18.♕xf7+ ♔xf7∓

18...d4! 19.cxd4 ♕d5

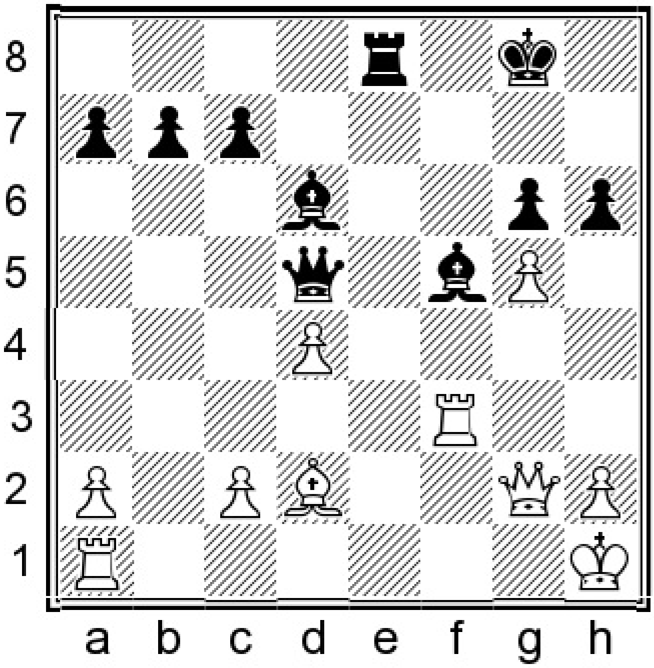
19...♗c6 20.g5 hxg5 21.♗xg5 ♗e7∓

20.g5 g6?

20...hxg5 21.♗xg5 ♖e4! 22.♗xe4 ♕xe4 23.♖f1 ♖xf5 24.c4 ♖f4! 25.♕g2 (25.♕xd7 ♖xf3 26.♖xf3

♕xf3+ 27.♔g1 ♕d1+-+)

21.♕g2 ♖xf5 22.♗xf5 ♗xf5



23.♖af1?

23.c4! ♕xd4 24.♖xf5! ♕xa1+ 25.♖f1 ♕e5 26.gxh6∞

23...♗e4 24.gxh6 ♔h7?

24...♖f8! 25.♔g1 ♖f7! 26.h7+ ♔h8-+

25.♖f7+ ♔h8 26.♖7f3?

26.♖1f3!

26...♖f8! 27.c4 ♗xf3?

27...♖xf3! 28.♖xf3 ♕h5 29.♖f8+ ♔h7! 30.♖f7+ ♔g8 31.♖g7+ ♔h8-+

28.cxd5 ♗xg2+ 29.♔xg2 ♖xf1 30.♔xf1 ♗xh2= 31.♔e2 b5 32.♔d3 ♔h7 33.♔c2 ♗d6 34.♔b3 a6 35.a4 ♗f8 1/2-1/2

101. C45
Esipenko, Andrey (2720) - Dudin, Gleb (2434)
Struga 150/101, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 exd4 4.♘xd4 ♗c5 5.♘b3 ♗b6 6.♘c3 ♘ge7

6...♕f6 - 24/(247)

6...♘f6 - 148/105

7.a4

7.♗g5 - 92/(305)

7...a6 8.♘d5

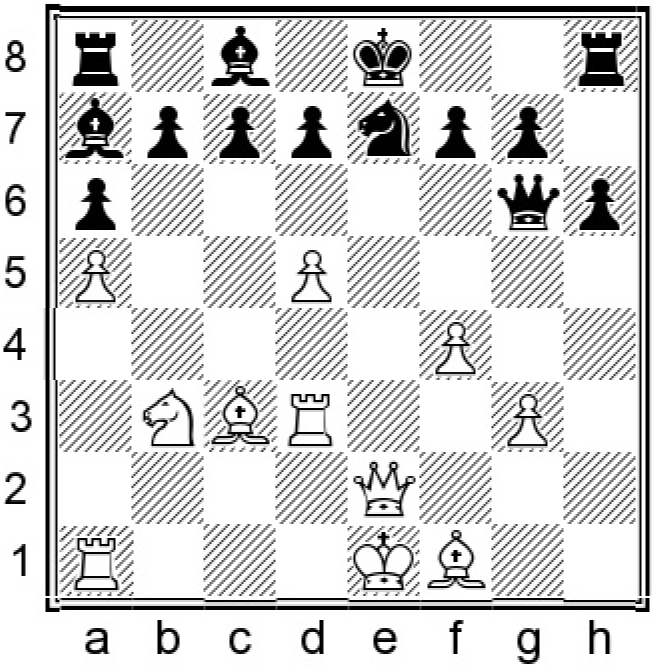
8.♕e2 - 37/345

8...♘xd5

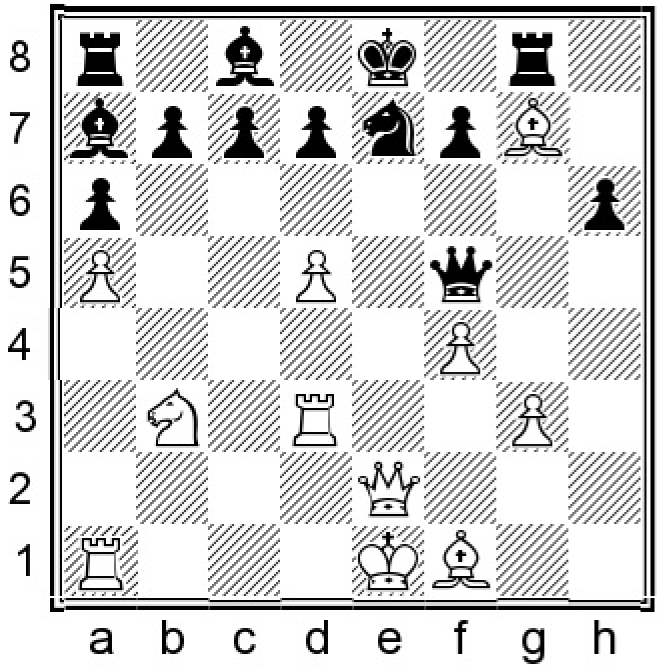
8...♗a7 9.♕g4 ♘xd5 10.exd5 ♕e7+ 11.♔d1 ♗xf2 (11...f5 12.♕xf5 d6 13.♕h5+ g6 14.♕e2 ♘e5 15.h3) 12.♗d3

9.exd5 ♕f6 10.♕e2+ ♘e7 11.h4 h6 12.♗d2! O-O?

⌓12...♕xb2 13.a5 ♗a7 14.♖h3 ♕xc2 15.♖d3! ♕b2 (15...d6? 16.♖c1 ♕b2 17.♖xc7 ♗d7 18.♗b4 ♕xe2+ 19.♗xe2+-; 15...♕c4 16.♗c3 ♕xh4 (16...♕xb3? 17.♗xg7+-) 17.g3! ♕g5 18.f4 ♕f5 (18...♕g6



19.♔d2! (19.O-O-O d6 20.♖e1 O-O! 21.♕xe7 ♗f5 22.♖f3 f6 23.♕e2 ♖fe8 24.♕c4 ♖xe1+ 25.♗xe1 ♖e8 26.♗d2 ♕h5∓) 19...d6 20.♖e1 O-O 21.♕xe7 ♗f5 22.♘d4! ♗xd4 23.♗xd4±) 19.♗xg7 ♖g8



20.♗h3!! ♕g6 (20...♕xh3 21.♗f6+-) 21.d6! cxd6 22.♗c3±) 16.♖c1 ♔d8 17.d6! cxd6 18.♖dc3 ♖e8 19.♔d1±

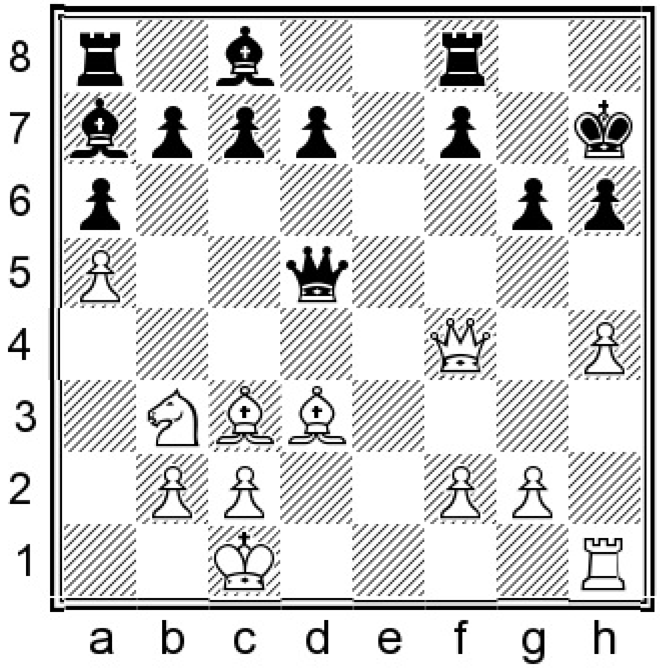
13.a5 ♗a7 14.♗c3 ♕d6 15.O-O-O ♘xd5

⌓15...b5 16.axb6 ♗xb6 17.♖h3 a5 18.♖g3 f6 19.♕g4 ♖f7 20.♘d2 f5 21.♕f3 ♘xd5 22.♘c4 ♕f4+ 23.♕xf4 ♘xf4 24.♖f3 ♘e6 25.♘e5 ♖f8 (25...♖e7 26.♗c4) 26.♘xd7

16.♖xd5! ♕xd5 17.♕g4 g6

17...f6 18.♗c4+-

18.♕f4 ♔h7 19.♗d3



19...f5N

19...♕d6 20.♗e5 ♕e6 21.h5 f5 22.hxg6+ ♕xg6 23.g4! d6 24.♗c3 ♖f7 25.g5+-

20.♗d2! 1-0

102. * C47
Lagarde, Maxime (2647) - Esipenko, Andrey (2713)
Terme Catez 150/102, 2021

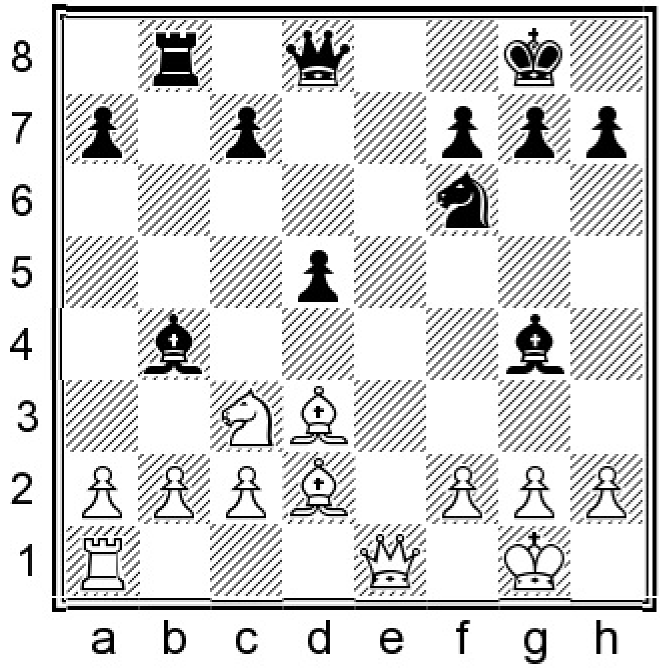
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.d4 exd4 5.♘xd4 ♗b4 6.♘xc6 bxc6 7.♗d3 O-O 8.O-O d5 9.♗d2

9.exd5 - 147/100

9...♖b8 10.♖e1 ♗g4 11.♕c1 ♖e8 12.exd5 ♖xe1+

12...cxd5

13.♕xe1 cxd5



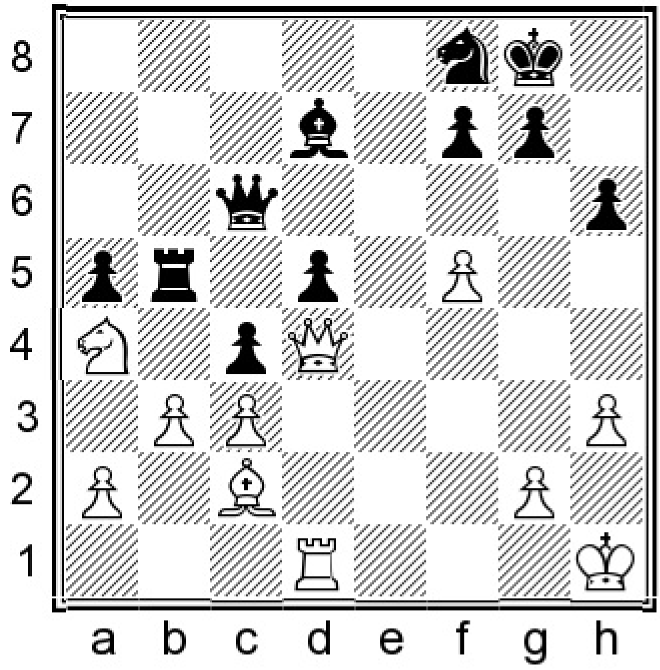
14.h3N

14.a3 - 150/ (102) 14...♗c5 15.b4 ♗d4 16.♖b1 ♕d7 17.♘b5? (17.♕f1 ♕c6 18.♘b5 ♗b6=) 17...♖xb5 18.♗xb5 ♕xb5∓ Perez Ponsa,F (2554)-Lazavik,D (2465) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(102) 2021

14...♗e6 15.b3 c5 16.♘a4 ♗xd2 17.♕xd2 ♕c7 18.♕e3 ♘d7

18...d4 19.♕d2 c4 20.♗f1 ♖d8=

19.♖d1 h6 20.c3 c4 21.♗c2 a5 22.♕d4 ♖b5 23.f4 ♘f8 24.f5 ♗d7 25.♔h1 ♕c6



26.b4! ♘h7

26...axb4 27.cxb4 ♖xb4 28.♘c3 ♕b6 29.♘xd5 (29.♕xb6 ♖xb6 30.♖xd5 ♖b2 31.♗e4 ♗c6 32.♖d4 ♗xe4 33.♖xe4 ♖f2! 34.g4 (34.♖xc4 ♖xf5=) 34...♘d7 35.♖xc4 ♖c2=) 29...♕xd4 30.♖xd4 ♖b2 31.♖xc4 ♖xa2 32.♖c7±

27.a3 ♘f6 28.♘c5 axb4 29.cxb4

29.axb4 ♕a8∞

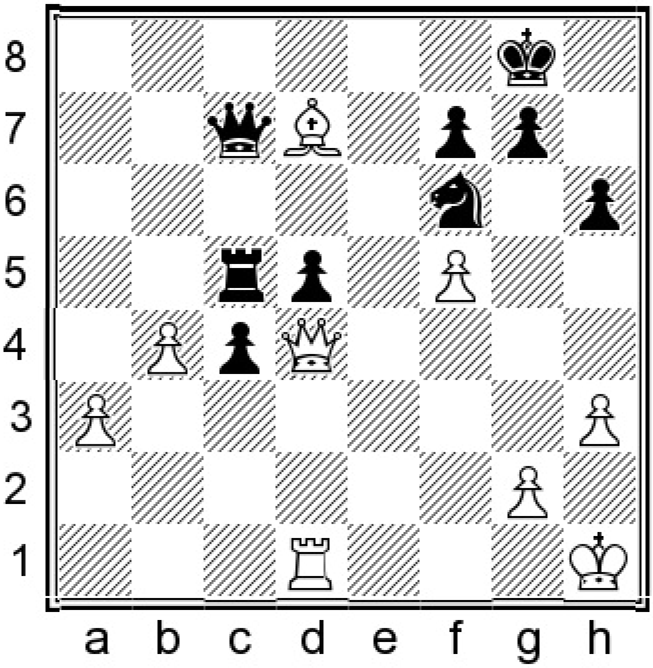
29...♕c7

29...♕a8! 30.♘xd7 (30.♗a4? ♖xc5 31.♗xd7 ♖c7-+) 30...♘xd7 31.a4 ♖xb4 32.♕xd5 ♕xd5 33.♖xd5 ♖b2 34.♗d1 ♘f6 35.♖d8+ ♔h7=

30.♗a4

30.a4 ♖xb4 31.♘a6 ♕b6 32.♘xb4 ♕xb4⩱; 30.♘xd7 ♘xd7 31.♗a4 ♖b8 32.♕xd5 (32.♗xd7 ♕xd7 33.♕xc4 dxc4 34.♖xd7 ♖a8 35.♖c7 ♖xa3 36.♖xc4 ♖b3=) 32...♘f6 33.♕c5 ♕xc5 34.bxc5 ♖c8 35.c6 ♘e4 36.♖c1 ♘d6 37.♔g1±

30...♖xc5 31.♗xd7



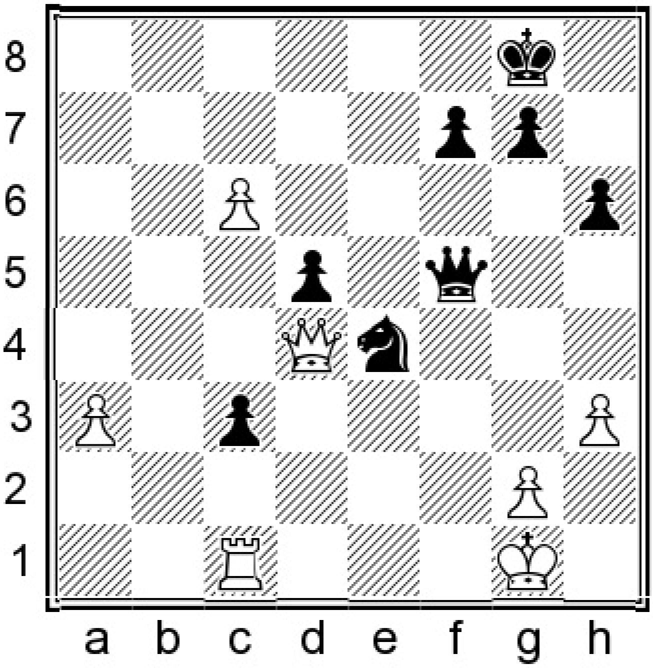
31...♘e4! 32.♔g1

32.bxc5?? ♘g3+-+

32...♕xd7 33.bxc5 c3 34.♖c1

34.♕xe4?? dxe4 35.♖xd7 c2-+

34...♕xf5 35.c6



35...♕e6??

35...♕g5! 36.♖xc3 (36.♖c2 ♕g3 37.♔f1 (37.♕xd5 ♕e1+=) 37...♔h7 38.a4 (38.♕xd5 ♕e3 39.♕f5+ ♔g8=) 38...f5 39.a5 ♕b8=; 36.♖f1 c2 37.h4 ♕g3 38.♖c1 ♔h7=) 36...♘xc3 37.♕xc3 d4! 38.♕xd4 ♕c1+ 39.♔h2 ♕xc6=

36.c7

36.♖xc3! ♘xc3 37.♕xc3 d4 38.♕c5 d3 39.c7 ♕c8 40.♔f2+-

36...♕c6 37.♕e5 c2 38.♔h2

38.♔h1 ♔f8 39.♕xd5 ♕xd5 40.c8=Q+ ♔e7 41.♕xc2+-

38...♔f8 39.♔h1 ♘f2+ 40.♔h2 ♘e4 41.♔h1

41.c8=Q+ ♕xc8 42.♕xd5 ♕c7+ 43.♔g1 ♕b6+ 44.♔h1 ♘f2+ 45.♔h2 ♕c7+ 46.g3+-

41...♕c5 42.♕xd5 ♘f2+

42...♘g3+ 43.♔h2 ♕xc7 44.♖xc2!+-

43.♔g1 ♘xh3+ 44.♔h2 ♕xd5 45.c8=Q+ ♔e7 46.♕xh3 ♕d2 47.♕h4+ 1-0

103. C47
Predojevic, Borki (2621) - Nestorovic, Nikola (2458)
Deutschland 150/103, 2021

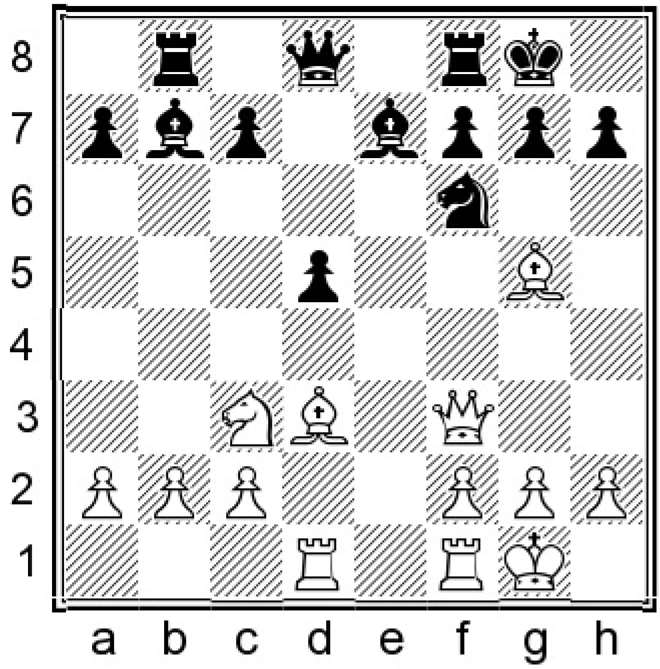
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.d4 exd4 5.♘xd4 ♗b4 6.♘xc6 bxc6 7.♗d3 d5 8.exd5 cxd5 9.O-O O-O 10.♕f3 ♖b8

10...c6 - 147/100

11.♗g5 ♗b7?!

11...♗e7 12.♗xf6 ♗xf6 13.♘xd5 ♗xb2 14.♖ad1∞

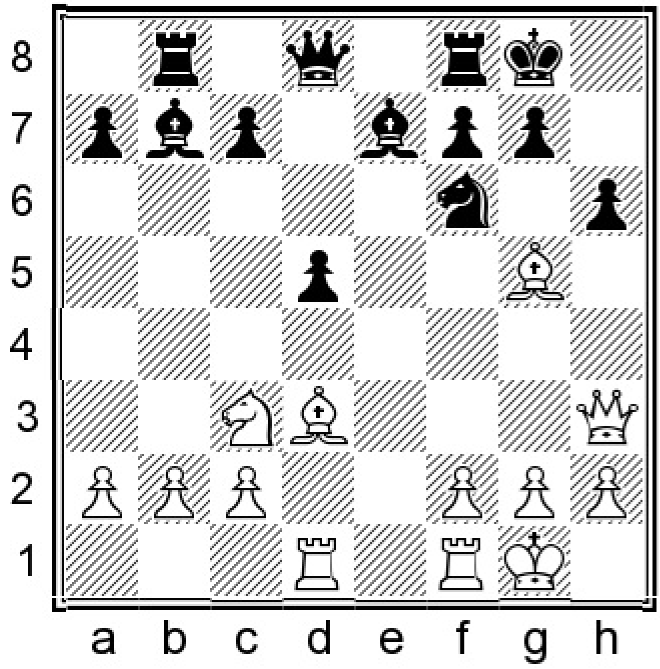
12.♖ad1 ♗e7



13.♕h3N

13.♗f4 d4 14.♘e4 ♗xe4 (14...♘d5?! 15.♗e5 f5 16.♕g3 ♖f7 17.♘d2±) 15.♗xe4 ♖xb2=

13...h6



14.♗xh6! gxh6

14...♗c8 15.♕g3 ♘h5 16.♕f3 (16.♕e5 ♗g4) 16...♘f6 17.♖de1! gxh6 18.♕e3 d4 19.♕xh6 dxc3 20.♖e5 ♕xd3 21.cxd3 ♘g4 22.♖g5+ ♗xg5 23.♕xg5+ ♔h7 24.bxc3±

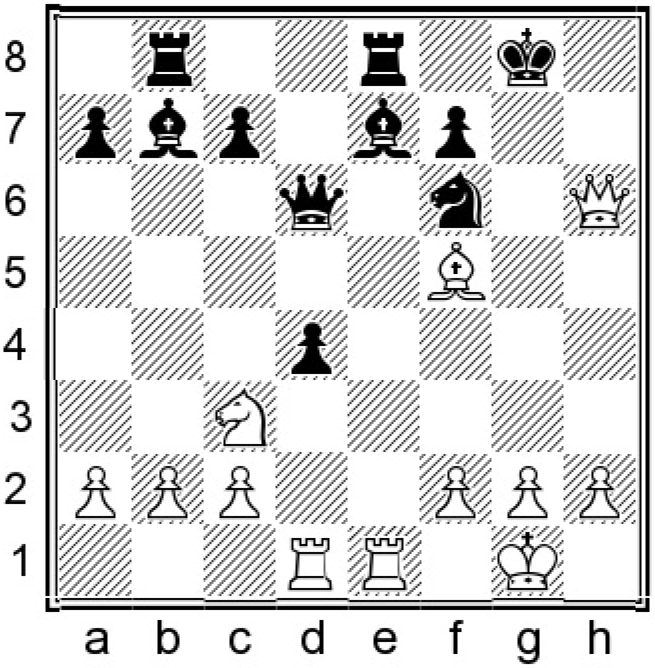
15.♕xh6 ♕d6

15...♖e8 16.♖fe1 ♗f8 17.♖xe8 ♕xe8 18.♕xf6+-

16.♕g5+ ♔h8 17.♕h6+ ♔g8 18.♕g5+ ♔h8 19.♖fe1 d4

19...♘e4 20.♕h5+ ♔g7 21.♗xe4 ♖h8 22.♕g4+ ♔f8+-

20.♕h6+ ♔g8 21.♗f5 ♖fe8 22.♕g5+ ♔f8 23.♕h6+ ♔g8 24.♕g5+ ♔f8 25.♕h6+ ♔g8



26.♘e4! ♕e5 27.♕g5+ ♔f8 28.♕h6+ ♔g8 29.♘g3 ♕d5 30.♕g5+ ♔f8 31.♕h6+ ♔g8 32.f3 d3 33.♕g5+ ♔f8 34.♕h6+ ♔g8 35.♘h5 1-0

104. C48
Naiditsch, Arkadij (2649) - Costachi, Mihnea (2471)
tornelo.com (Int.-rapid) 150/104, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.♗b5 ♘d4 5.O-O

5.♗c4 ♗c5 6.d3 - 141/103

5...♗c5

5...♘xb5 - 74/344

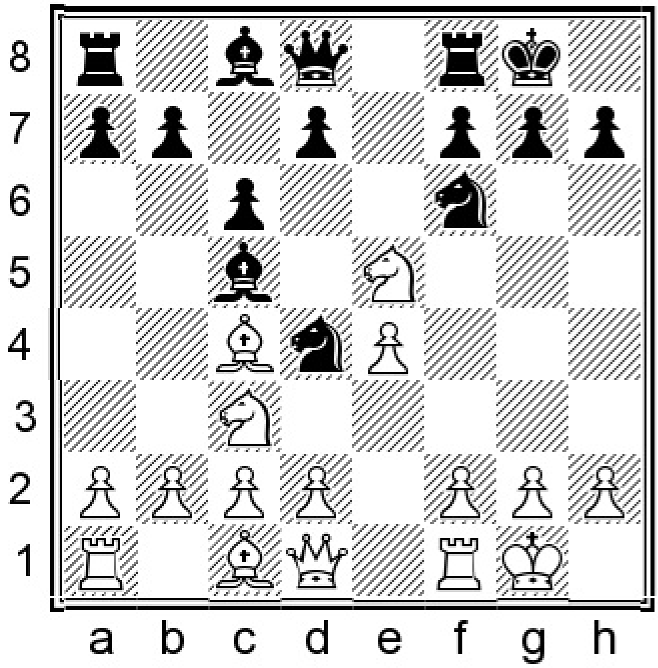
6.♘xe5

6.♗d3?! d6 7.♘xd4 ♗xd4 8.♘e2 ♗b6 9.c3 d5 10.exd5 ♕xd5 11.♗c2 ♗g4 12.d3 O-O-O↑; 6.♗a4 O-O 7.d3 d6 8.h3 c6 9.♘xd4 ♗xd4 10.♘e2 ♗b6 11.♘g3 ♗e6 12.♕f3 ♘d7 13.♗b3 a5⇄; 6.♗c4 d6 7.♘xd4

♗xd4 8.d3 ♗e6 9.♘e2 ♗b6 10.♘g3 O-O 11.♗b3 a5⇄; 6.♘xd4 ♗xd4 7.d3 (7.♘e2 ♗b6 8.d4 O-O 9.dxe5 ♘xe4 10.♘g3 d5=) 7...c6 8.♗c4 d5!? (8...b5!? 9.♗b3 a5 10.a4 b4 11.♘e2 ♗a7 12.♘g3 d6∞) 9.exd5 cxd5 10.♗b3 (10.♗b5+ ♗d7 11.♗xd7+ ♕xd7 12.♘e2 ♗b6 13.♗g5 ♕f5⇄) 10...♗e6 11.♘e2 ♗b6 12.d4 e4∞

6...O-O 7.♘d3!?

7.♖e1 d6 8.♘f3 ♘g4 9.♖f1 f5∓; 7.♗c4 d6 (7...c6



8.♘xf7! ♖xf7 9.♗xf7+ ♔xf7 10.e5 ♘e8 11.♘e4 ♗e7 12.c3 ♘f5 13.d4 d6 14.f4 ♔g8 15.g4±; 7...b5 8.♘xb5 d5 9.♘xd4 dxc4 10.♘df3 ♘xe4 11.♘xc4 ♗a6 12.b3±) 8.♘f3 ♗g4 9.♗e2 ♘xe2+ 10.♕xe2 ♖e8 11.d3 h6 (11...d5 12.♗g5 c6 13.h3 ♗h5 14.g4 ♗g6 15.♔g2 h6 16.♗h4 ♗b4 17.e5⩲) 12.h3 ♗h5 13.♗e3 ♗b4 14.♗d4 ♗xc3 15.♗xc3 d5 (15...♘d5 16.♗d2 f5 17.g4! fxe4 18.gxh5 exf3 19.♕xf3 c6 20.♖ae1±) 16.♖ad1 d4! 17.♗d2 c5 Δ Rc8-c6⇄

7...♗b6

7...♘xb5 8.♘xb5 ♘xe4 9.♘xc5 ♘xc5 10.d4 ♘e4 11.f3 a6 (11...♘f6 12.♗g5 c6 13.♘d6 ♕c7 14.♗f4 ♘e8 15.c4 ♘xd6 16.c5⩲) 12.♘xc7 ♘c3 13.♕e1 ♕xc7 14.♕xc3 ♕xc3 15.bxc3 d5 16.♖b1⩲

8.e5 ♘xb5

8...♘e8 9.♘e2!? (9.a4? c6 10.♗c4 d5 11.exd6 ♘xd6 12.♗a2 ♕g5 13.♔h1 ♗c7∓→; 9.b3?! c6 10.♗c4 d5 11.exd6 ♘xd6 12.♗a3 ♖e8∓; 9.♗c4?! c6 10.♘a4 ♗c7 11.c3 ♘f5 12.♗b3 d6! 13.♖e1 b5 14.♘ac5 dxc5 15.♘xc5 ♗b6 16.♘e4 c5 17.a4 c4 18.♗c2 ♗e6∓; 9.♘e1 d5 10.exd6 c6 11.♗d3 ♘xd6 12.b3 ♖e8 13.♗b2 a5⇄) 9...♘xb5 10.a4 f6 11.axb5 fxe5 12.♘xe5 d6 13.♘c4 ♗xf2+! 14.♖xf2 ♖xf2 15.♔xf2 ♕h4+ 16.♔g1 ♕xc4 17.♘c3 ♕d4+ 18.♔h1 ♘f6=

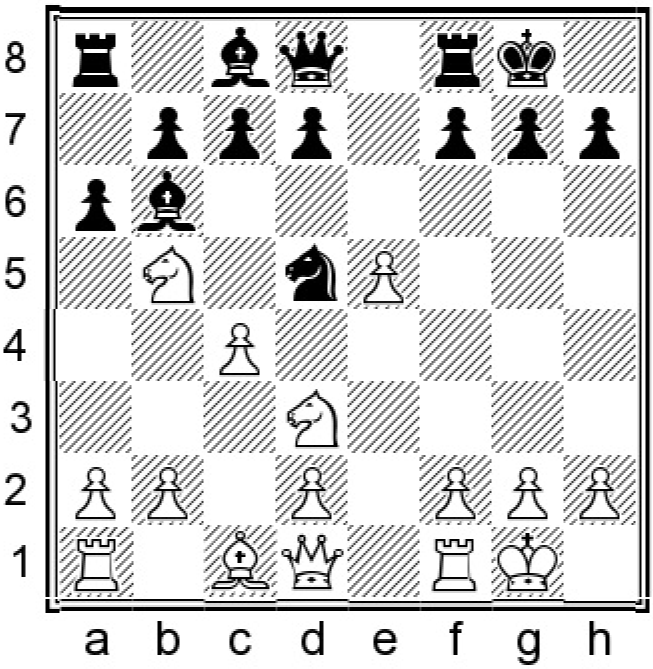
9.♘xb5 ♘d5

9...♘e4 10.♘c3 d5 (10...♘g5 11.♘f4 d6 12.exd6 ♕xd6 13.d3 c6 14.♕h5±) 11.♘a4! (11.exd6 ♘f6!? (11...♘xd6 12.♘f4 ♕h4 13.g3 ♕d8 14.d3 c6 15.♗e3±) 12.♕f3 (12.dxc7 ♗xc7=∞) 12...♕xd6 13.♘f4 ♗d7 14.d3 ♖ae8 15.♗d2 ♗d4 16.♘h5 ♗c6=∞) 11...♖e8 (11...c6 12.♘xb6 ♕xb6 13.b3 ♗e6 14.♗b2 ♖ad8 15.♘f4±) 12.♘xb6 axb6 13.f4 d4 14.♘e1±

10.c4!?

10.a4 a6 (10...d6 11.a5 ♗c5 12.♘c3! (12.♕f3 ♗d7 13.c4 ♗c6 14.♘xc5 dxc5 15.cxd5 ♗xb5 16.d3 f6 17.e6 c6 18.♗e3 ♕xd5 19.♕xd5 cxd5 20.♗xc5 ♖fc8 21.b4±) 12...♘b4 13.♘xb4 ♗xb4 14.♘d5 ♗xa5 15.♖xa5 c6 16.b4 cxd5 17.♖xd5 ♕b6 18.♖xd6 ♕xb4 19.c3 ♕a5 20.♖e1±) 11.♘c3 ♘e7 (11...♘xc3 12.dxc3 d5 13.a5 ♗a7 14.♕f3 c5 15.♖e1±) 12.♖e1 ♘g6 (12...d6 13.exd6 cxd6 14.♘f4 ♗f5 15.a5 ♗d4 16.♘ce2±) 13.b3 ♖e8 14.♗a3 (14.♗b2 d5 15.♕f3±) 14...♗d4 15.♕h5 b6 16.♖e4!? ♗xc3 (16...c5 17.♖xd4! cxd4 18.♘e4 ♕h4 19.♕xh4 ♘xh4 20.♘d6±) 17.dxc3 d5 18.♖e3±

10...a6

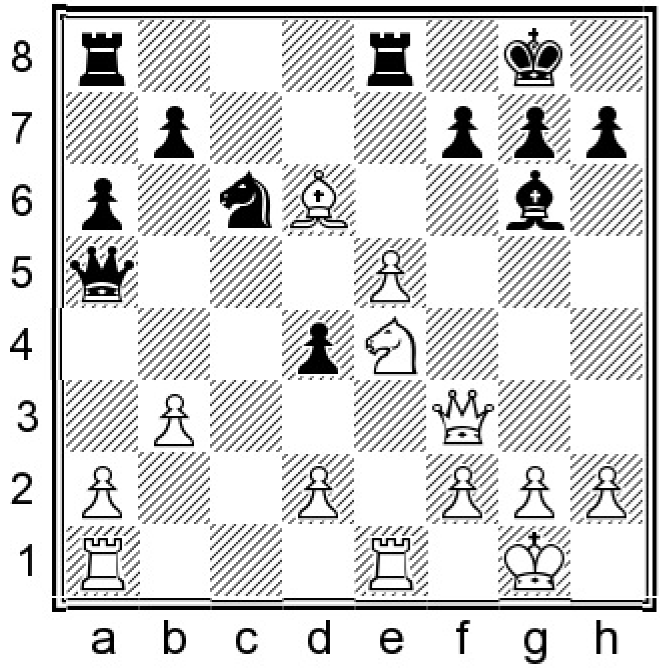


11.♘c3N

11.♘a3 ♘e7 12.c5 ♗a7 13.♘c4 b5 14.♘e3 ♘g6 15.f4 d6 16.exd6 cxd6 17.♕f3 ♖b8 18.f5 ♘h4 19.♕g3 dxc5 20.f6 ♘g6=

11...♘xc3

11...♘e7 12.b3 (12.♘f4 ♗d4 13.♖e1 ♘f5 14.♖e4!? b5!? 15.♕f3 c6 16.d3 f6!⇄) 12...d5 13.c5 ♗f5 14.cxb6 ♗xd3 15.♖e1 d4 16.bxc7 ♕xc7 17.♕f3 ♗g6 18.♘e4 ♘c6 19.♗a3 ♖fe8 20.♗d6 ♕a5



21.b4! ♘xb4 22.♗xb4 ♕xb4 23.♘d6 ♖e7 24.d3 ♕a3 25.♕d5 ♕xd3 26.♖ad1 ♕a3 27.♖xd4±

12.bxc3!?

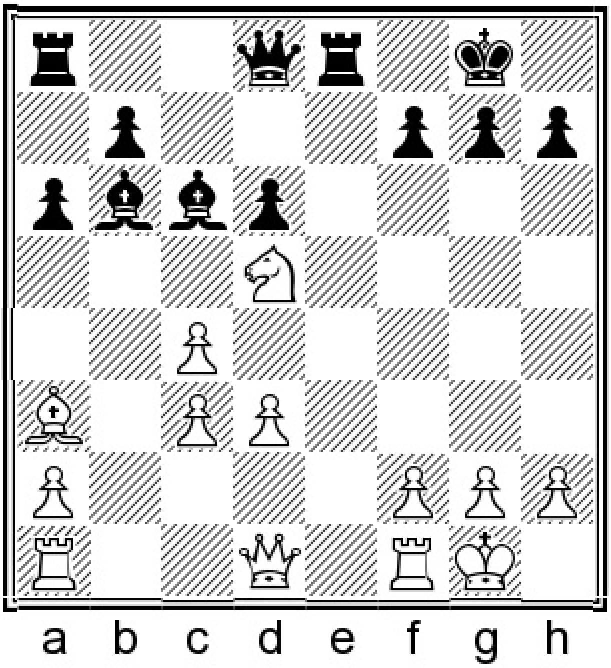
12.dxc3 d6 13.exd6 ♕xd6 14.♕f3 ♖d8 (14...♗g4 15.♕xg4 ♕xd3 16.♗h6 ♕g6 17.♕xg6 fxg6 18.♗e3 ♗xe3 19.fxe3 ♖ad8 20.♖fd1±) 15.♗f4! ♕g6 16.♘e5 ♕f5 17.♕g3±

12...d6 13.♗a3 ♗f5 14.♘f4 ♖e8

14...c5 15.♖e1 ♖e8 16.d4±

15.exd6 cxd6 16.d4

16.d3 ♗d7 17.♘d5 ♗c6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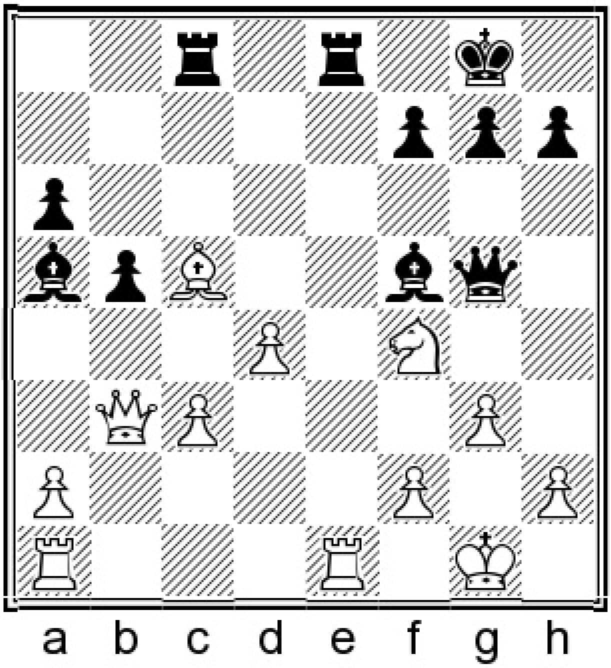
18.♕g4! (18.♕f3 ♗a5! 19.♖ac1 ♖c8 20.♗b4 ♗xb4 21.cxb4 ♖e5! 22.d4 ♗xd5 23.cxd5 ♖e7 24.♕f4 ♖ec7 25.♖ce1 ♕f6⇄) 18...♗a5 19.♕d4 ♗xd5 20.cxd5 ♖e2 (20...b5 21.♖ab1! ♖b8 22.c4 ♖e2 23.♖b2±) 21.♗b4 ♗xb4 22.♕xb4 b5 23.a4±

16...♖c8 17.♕b3 ♗a5! 18.♖fe1 b5⇄ 19.c5

19.♗b4 ♖xe1+ 20.♖xe1 bxc4 21.♕a3 ♗xb4 22.♕xb4 g6 23.♕b7 a5 24.♕d5 ♖b8! 25.♕xc4 ♕c8 26.♕xc8+ ♖xc8 27.♖e3 ♔g7 28.f3 ♗b1 29.a3 ♗a2 30.♔f2 ♖b8⇄

19...♕g5 20.g3 dxc5 21.♗xc5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21...♗c7?

21...♕g4! 22.♗b4 (22.♔g2 ♗d7 23.♗b4 ♗xb4 24.cxb4 g5⇄; 22.♘d5 ♗e6 23.♖e5 ♗xd5 24.♖xe8+ ♖xe8 25.♕xd5 ♗xc3 26.♖c1 b4=) 22...♗c7 23.♘d5 ♗e6 24.♖e3 a5! 25.♖ae1 axb4 26.♘xc7 ♖xc7 27.d5 ♖xc3 28.♖xc3 bxc3 29.♕xb5 ♖c8 30.dxe6 fxe6 31.♕d7 ♖f8 32.♕xe6+ ♕xe6 33.♖xe6 ♖c8=

22.♘d5± ♗c2

22...♗e6? 23.♘e7+! ♖xe7 24.♗xe7 ♕xe7 25.d5+-; 22...♗e4? 23.♘e7+ ♖xe7 24.♗xe7 ♕xe7 (24...♕f5 25.♖e3 ♗d5 26.♕b1+-) 25.♖e3 (25.f3? ♕g5 26.♖xe4 ♗xg3⇄) 25...♗f4 26.gxf4 ♕d6 27.♖ae1 ♗c6 28.d5+-

23.♘e7+ ♖xe7 24.♗xe7 ♕f5 25.♕a3 ♗e4 26.♕c5

26.♖e3 ♗b7 27.♕b2 ♕d5 28.f3 f5 29.♗g5 h6 30.♗f4 ♗xf4 31.gxf4 ♕d6 32.♖ae1 ♕xf4 33.♕g2+-

26...♕f3 27.♖xe4 ♕xe4 28.♗d6 ♕b7 29.♖e1 ♗a5

29...♗xd6 30.♕xd6 g6 31.d5 ♕a8 32.♕e5±; 29...f6 30.♕f5 ♗xd6 31.♕e6+ ♔f8 32.♕xd6+ ♔f7 33.d5±

30.♕a3

30.♕f5 g6 31.♕f6 ♕c6 32.♖e7 ♖f8 33.♖d7!+-

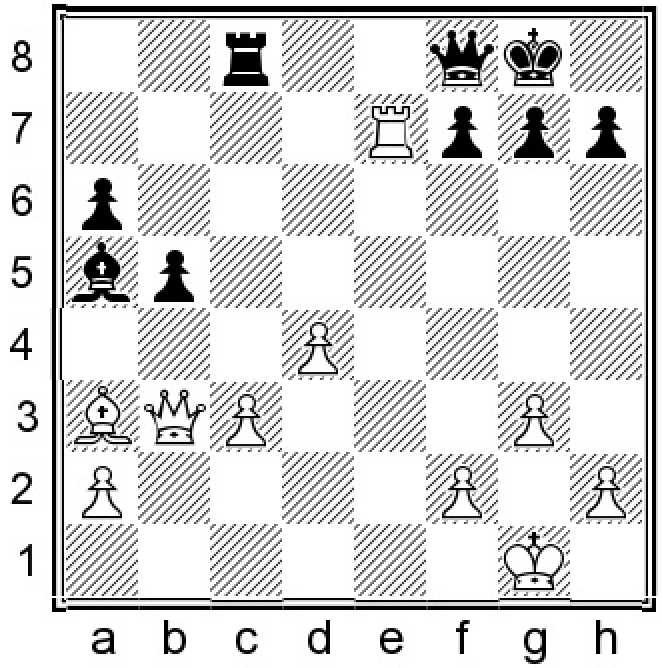
30...♕b6

30...♗b6 31.♖e7 ♕a8 32.♗f4±

31.♗c5 ♕d8 32.♖e7 ♗b6

32...♗xc3 33.♕b3! ♔h8 34.♕xf7 ♕g8 35.♕f3 b4 36.♕g4 ♖d8 37.♕e4 ♕xa2 38.d5 ♖g8 39.d6+-

33.♕b3 ♕f8 34.♗a3 ♗a5



35.♖a7

35.♖c7! ♗xc7 36.♗xf8 ♖xf8 37.♕a3 ♖a8 38.♕c5 ♗a5 39.c4+-

35...♕e8 36.♖e7 ♕f8 37.♕d5

37.♖c7!+-

37...b4!? 38.♖b7

38.♖d7 bxa3 39.♕xa5 ♕e8 40.♕d5 h6 41.c4+-

38...bxa3 39.♕xa5 ♕d6 40.♖b3?!

40.♕f5 ♕e6 (40...♖f8 41.d5+-) 41.♕xe6 fxe6 42.♖b3 g5 43.♖xa3 ♔f7 44.♔f1 g4 45.f3 h5 46.♔e2 ♔f6 47.fxg4 hxg4 48.♔d3 ♖h8 49.♖xa6 ♔e7 50.♔e3 ♖xh2 51.♔f4+-

40...♕e6 41.♖b1?

41.♕e5±

41...♕xa2 42.♖f1 ♕b2 43.♕xa6 ♕xc3= 44.d5 ♖d8 45.♕b6 ♖a8 46.♕b7 ♖d8 47.♕e7 ♕c8 48.♕xa3 ♖xd5 49.h4 h5 50.♖e1 ♖d8 51.♕e7 ♕d7 52.♕g5 g6 53.♕e3 ♕f5 54.♔g2 ♕d5+ 55.♕e4 ♕xe4+ 56.♖xe4 ♔g7 57.♖a4 ♔f6 58.♖a6+ ♔g7 59.♖a7 ♖d3 60.♖a6 ♖b3 61.♖a7 ♖c3 62.♖a6 ♖b3 63.♖a7 ♖c3 64.♖a6 ♖b3 1/2-1/2

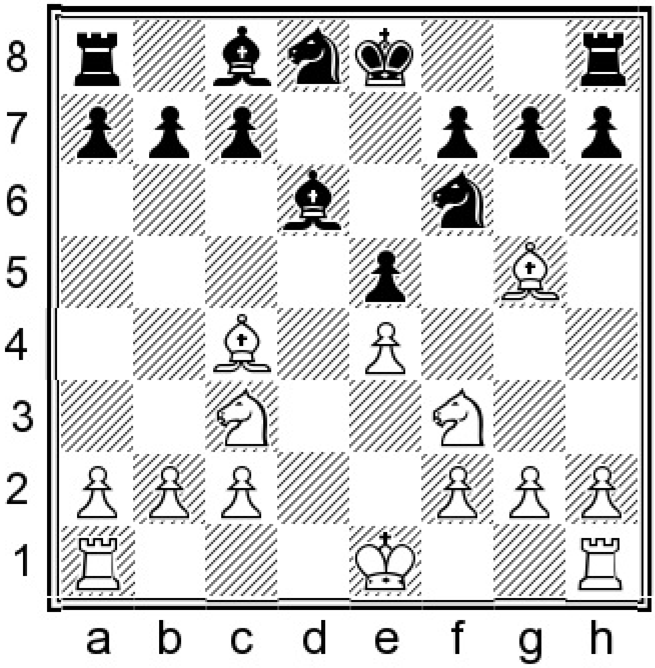
C50-C74

105. C50
Aronian, Levon (2782) - Artemiev, Vladislav (2699)
chess24.com (Int.-m/4-rapid) 150/105, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 d6 4.d4 ♘f6

4...♗e7 - 34/383

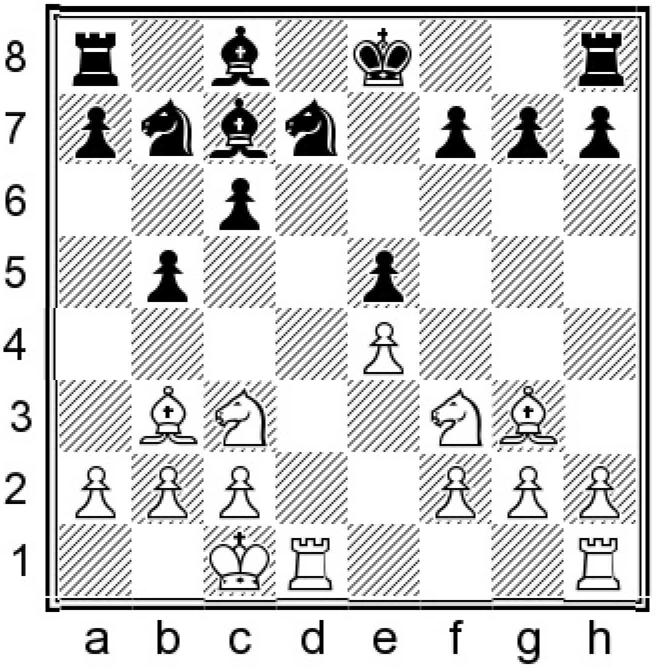
5.dxe5 dxe5 6.♕xd8+ ♘xd8 7.♘c3 ♗d6 8.♗g5



8...c6N

8...O-O; 8...♘c6; 8...♗e6

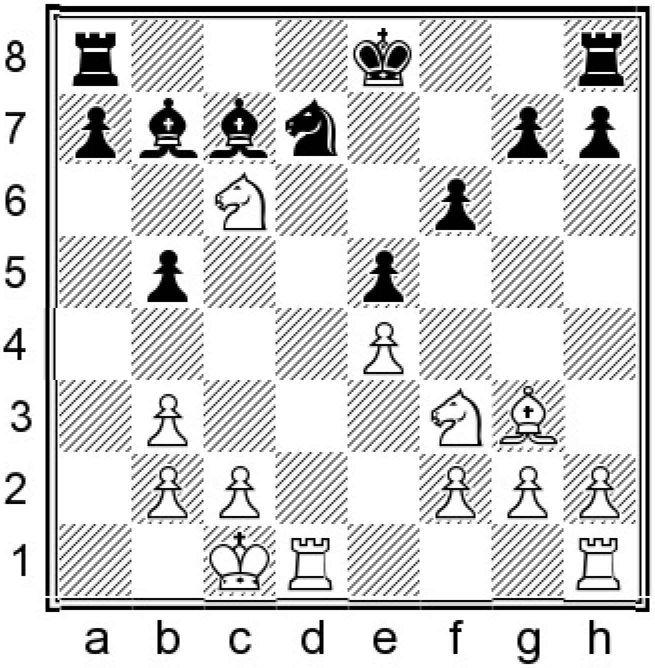
9.O-O-O ♗c7 10.♗h4 b5 11.♗b3 ♘b7 12.♗g3 ♘d7



13.♘e2! ♘bc5?!

13...h5! 14.h3 (14.h4?! ♘bc5 15.♘ed4 ♖h6∓ 16.♘f5 ♖g6 17.♖he1 a5∓) 14...♘bc5 (14...a5 15.a4 ♘bc5 16.♗a2 b4 17.♘ed4 h4 18.♗h2 f6 19.♖he1 ♘b6!∓) 15.♘ed4 ♖h6 16.♘f5 ♖g6 17.♘3h4±

14.♘ed4 f6 15.♘xc6 ♘xb3+ 16.axb3 ♗b7?



16...♘c5 17.♘cd4 ♗d7 18.♖he1 g6⯹

17.♘cd4! ♖c8 18.♘xb5 ♗xe4 19.♖he1 ♗g6 20.♘h4 ♗b8 21.♘xg6 hxg6 22.f4 ♔e7 23.♘d4! ♔f7

23...♖hd8 24.fxe5 ♗xe5 25.♘f3+-

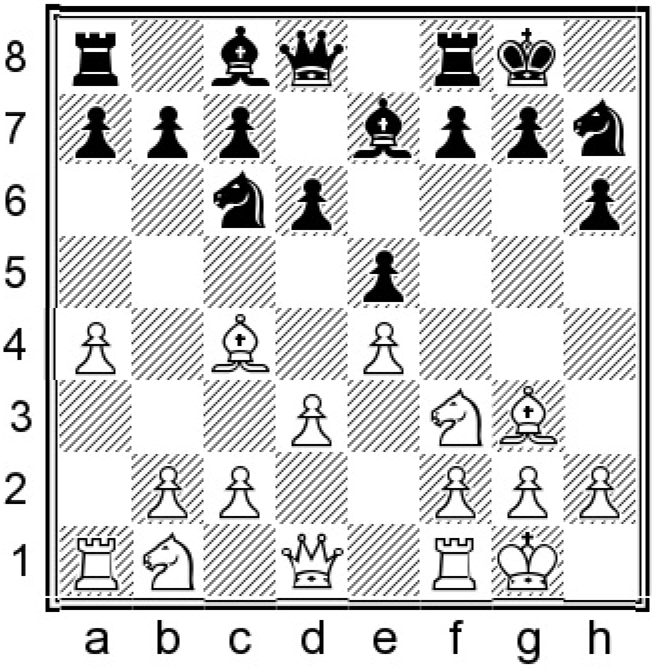
24.♘f3 ♘c5 25.fxe5+- ♘xb3+ 26.♔b1 ♘c5 27.b4 ♘a4 28.♖d7+ ♔e6 29.♖xg7 ♖c4 30.exf6+ ♔xf6 31.♖ee7 ♖xb4+ 32.♔c1 ♖f8 33.♗xb8 ♖bxb8 34.♖xa7 ♘c3 35.♖gc7 ♖b1+ 36.♔d2 ♘e4+ 37.♔e3 ♖e8 38.♖f7+ ♔e6 39.♔xe4 ♔d6+ 40.♔d3 1-0

106. C50
So, Wesley (2778) - Radjabov, Teimour (2763)
chess24.com (Int.-m/4-rapid) 150/106, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.O-O ♘f6 5.d3 O-O 6.♗g5 h6 7.♗h4 ♗e7 8.♗g3

8.♗b3 - 62/345

8...d6 9.a4 ♘h7!?



10.♘c3N

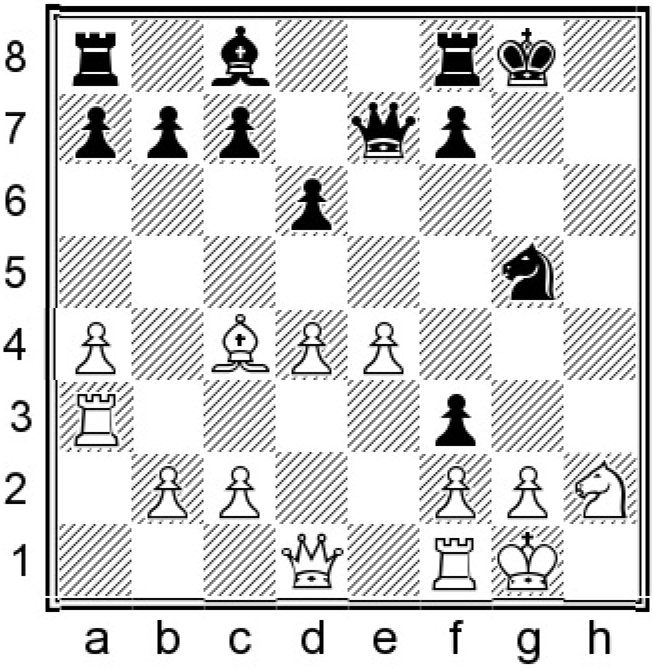
10.♘bd2

10...♘g5 11.♘d2 ♘e6 12.♘d5 ♗g5 13.♘f3 ♘e7 14.h4?!

14.♘xg5 hxg5 15.♘e3±; 14.a5!?±

14...♗f4 15.♗xf4 exf4 16.♘xe7+ ♕xe7 17.d4 g5!⇄ 18.♘h2?

18.hxg5 hxg5 19.♖a3!? g4 20.♘h2 ♘g5 21.♘xg4 f3 22.♘h2



22...♘h3+! 23.♔h1 (23.gxh3 ♕g5+ 24.♘g4 ♗xg4 25.♔h2 ♕f4+ 26.♔h1 ♕h6 27.♖xf3 ♔h8!∓ (27...♗xh3 28.♖e1 ♗g4+ 29.♔g2 ♗xf3+ 30.♕xf3 ♕g5+ 31.♔f1=∞)) 23...fxg2+ 24.♔xg2 ♕xe4+ 25.♖f3 ♔h8 26.♖h1 ♖g8+ 27.♔f1∞

18...gxh4! 19.♖e1 ♔h8 20.e5 ♕g5 21.♘f3

21.♖a3 ♖g8 22.♗f1 ♕g7 Δ Ng5→

21...♕g4 22.exd6?

22.♔h2 ♖g8 23.♖g1 ♖g7∓

22...h3 23.♗f1 hxg2 24.♗e2

24.♗xg2 ♖g8-+

24...♘g5 25.d5 ♕h5 0-1

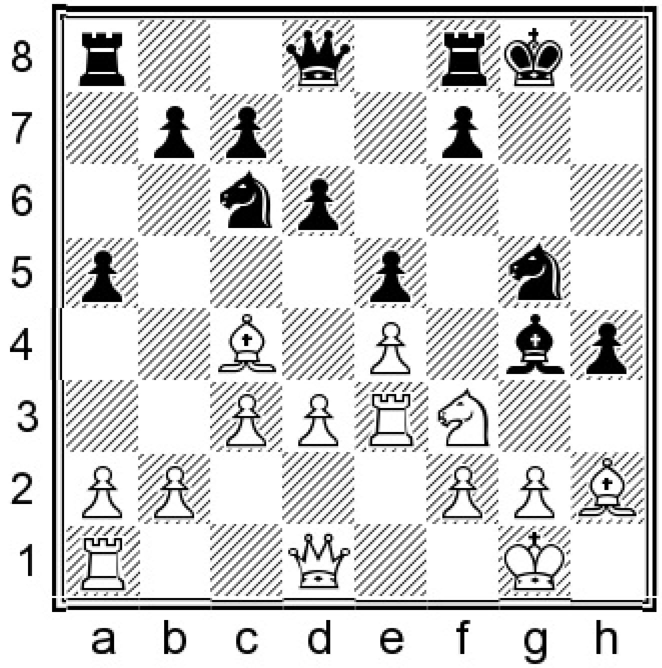
107. ** C54
Keuter, Klaus - Glatthaar, Michael
corr 150/107, 2020

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.O-O ♘f6 5.d3 a5 6.c3 ♗a7

6...d6 - 147/ 104

7.♗g5 h6 8.♗h4 d6 9.♘bd2 g5 10.♗g3 O-O 11.♗b3

11.♖e1 ♘h7 12.♘f1 h5 13.h3 h4 14.♗h2 g4 15.hxg4 ♗xg4 16.♘e3 ♗xe3 17.♖xe3 ♘g5



18.♕d2?!N (18.♔h1; 18.d4) 18...♗xf3 19.gxf3 ♕f6 20.♔h1 (20.♔f1 ♔h7 21.♔e2 ♘e7∓) 20...♔h8∓ Demchenko,A (2610)-Bodnar,N (2434) chess.com (Int. -blitz) 150/(107) 2021

11...♘h7

11...♔g7 12.♘c4 ♘e7 13.♗c2 b5 14.♘e3 ♘h5=; 11...♗e6

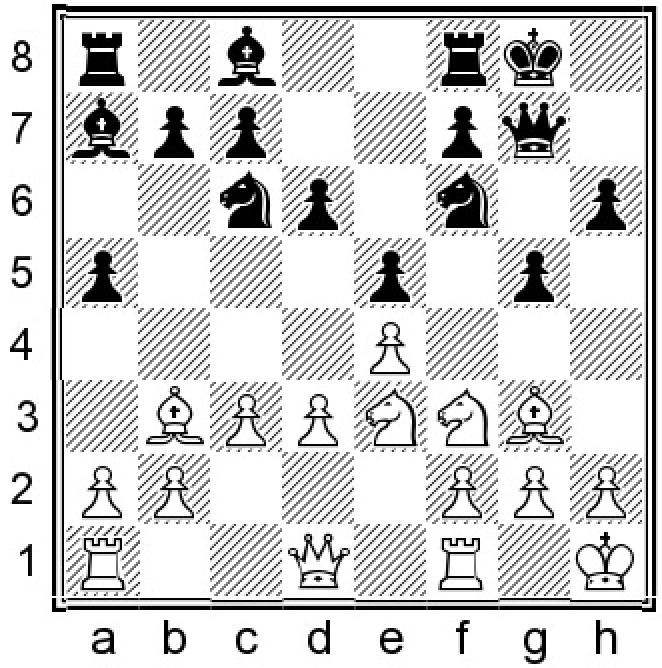
12.♔h1

12.♘c4

12...♕f6 13.♘c4

13.d4 exd4 14.cxd4 (14.♘xd4 ♗xd4 (14...♘xd4 15.cxd4 ♗xd4 16.f4 gxf4 17.♗xf4 ♗xb2 18.♕h5 ♔h8 19.♖ab1 ♗e5 20.♗xh6 ♗g4 21.♕xg4 ♕xh6 22.♘f3 ♘f6 23.♕f5=) 15.cxd4 ♕xd4 16.f4 a4 17.♗c2 ♗e6 18.fxg5 (18.♕c1 ♘b4 19.a3 ♘xc2 20.♕xc2 ♖a6 21.♗f2 ♕g7 22.f5 ♗d7 23.♕xc7 ♗c6 24.♔g1 ♕xb2 25.♘c4 ♕c2 26.♘xd6 ♗xe4 27.♕e7 ♕c6 28.♕xe4 ♕xd6 29.♕xb7 ♖b8 30.♕f3=) 18...♘xg5 19.♗f4 a3 20.bxa3 ♖xa3 21.♕h5 ♕g7 22.h4=) 14...♗xd4 15.♘xd4 ♕xd4 16.f4 a4 (16...♗e6 17.♗a4 ♖ab8 (17...♗g4 18.♕xg4 ♕xa4 (18...♕xd2 19.♕h5 ♕d4 20.♗xc6 bxc6 21.e5 dxe5 22.fxe5±) 19.fxg5 hxg5 20.♘f3 f6 21.b3 ♕b4 22.♘h4 ♖ae8 23.♘f5 ♔h8 24.♕h5 ♘e7 25.♖fe1=) 18.♖c1 ♕xb2 19.f5 ♗d7 (19...♗xa2 20.♖c2+-) 20.♘c4 ♕h8 21.♘xa5 (21.♗xc6 ♗xc6 22.e5 ♖bd8 23.exd6 (23.♕h5 ♕g7 24.f6 ♕g6 25.♕xg6+ fxg6 26.♘xa5 dxe5 27.♘xc6 bxc6 28.♗xe5 ♖de8 29.♗xc7 ♖xf6=) 23...cxd6 24.♗e1 d5 25.♗xa5 ♖d7 26.♘b6= ♖dd8 27.♘c4 ♖d7 28.♘b6=)) 17.♗c2 ♗e6 18.fxg5 ♘xg5 19.♗f4 a3 (19...♖fe8 20.♖c1 ♗xa2 (20...♕xb2 21.♖b1 (21.e5 ♘xe5 22.♕h5=) 21...♕d4 (21...♕g7 22.♖xb7 ♘d4 23.♖xc7 a3 24.♗a4 ♖eb8=) 22.a3 b5 23.♖xb5 ♖eb8 24.♖xb8+ ♖xb8=) 21.e5 dxe5 22.♗xg5 hxg5 23.♗e4 ♖ad8 24.♕h5 ♕xd2 25.♗g6 fxg6 26.♕xg6+ ♔h8 27.♕h6+=) 20.bxa3 ♖xa3 21.♕h5 ♕g7=

13...♕g7 14.♘e3 ♘f6



15.♗c2N

15.a4 - 150/(107) 15...♔h8 16.♕e2 ♗d7 17.♖ae1 (17.♘d2!?) 17...♖ae8 18.♕d1 ♗c8 19.♘d2 h5 20.h4 ♘g4 21.hxg5 ♕xg5 22.♘f3 ♘xe3 23.♘xg5 ♘xd1 24.♗xd1 ♔g7 25.♘h3 ♖h8 26.f4 h4 27.♗f2 ♗xf2 28.♖xf2 f5 29.exf5 ♗xf5 30.fxe5 ♖hf8 31.d4 dxe5 32.d5 ♘b8 33.♔g1 ♘d7= McDermott,F-Schakel,C corr 150/(107) 2020

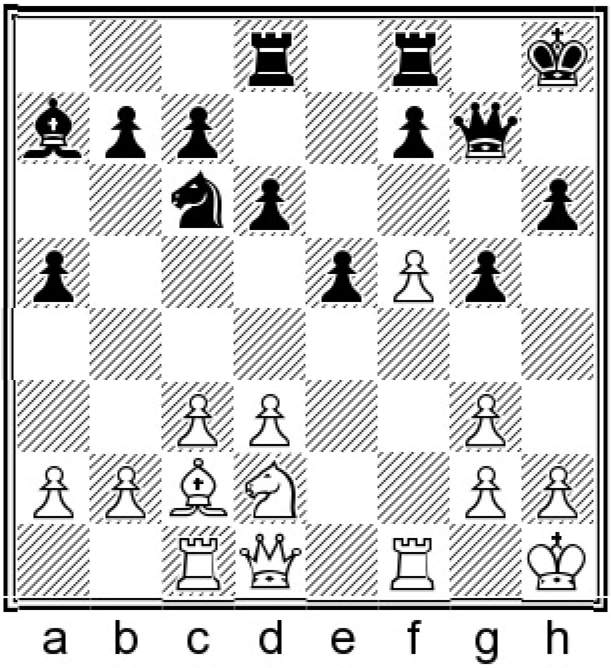
15...♔h8 16.♖c1

16.♕e2 ♗d7 17.♖ae1 ♗xe3 18.fxe3 ♖ae8 (18...♘h7 19.♘d2 a4 20.c4=) 19.♗a4 ♕g6 20.♗b5 ♖e7 21.a4 ♘h5 22.♗f2=; 16.♕d2 ♘h5 17.♘f5 ♗xf5 18.exf5 ♘e7 19.♖ae1=

16...♘h5 17.♘f5 ♗xf5 18.exf5 ♖ad8 19.♘d2?!

19.♕e2 f6 20.♖fe1 d5 21.d4 exd4 22.♔g1 dxc3 (22...♗b6 23.♕d3 dxc3 24.bxc3 ♕f7 25.♗a4 ♘g7 26.h3 ♖fe8 27.♗h2 ♕f8=) 23.bxc3 ♗b6 24.♗a4 ♕f7 25.♕d3 ♖de8 26.♖e6 ♘g7 27.♗xc6 bxc6 28.♖xc6 ♕d7 29.♘d4=

19...♘xg3+ 20.fxg3



20...f6! 21.g4

21.♗a4 ♘e7 22.♘c4 b6 23.♘d2 c6 24.♗b3 d5 25.c4 ♗b8 26.♕h5 g4 27.♗d1 dxc4 28.♘xc4 (28.♖xc4?! ♕g5 29.♕xg5 hxg5∓) 28...♗c7 29.♗xg4 ♖xd3 30.♗e2 ♖d4 31.♘a3=

21...d5 22.♕f3 ♕f7

22...♘e7 23.♖b1 b5 24.a4 c6 25.b4 axb4 26.♖xb4 ♗c5 27.♖bb1 bxa4 28.♗xa4 ♖a8 29.♖a1 ♖fb8∞

23.♗a4 ♘e7 24.♗d1

24.c4 c6 25.c5 ♔g7 26.♕e2 ♖h8 27.♗d1 ♗b8 28.g3 ♗c7∓

24...c6 25.♕h3

25.a4 ♘c8 26.♕h3 (26.♖e1 ♘d6 27.♕h3 ♔g7 (27...♔h7 28.♗b3 ♖h8 29.♘e4 ♕f8 30.♕h5 ♖g8∓) 28.♘f1 e4 29.d4 ♘c4 30.♗b3 ♘xb2 31.♖xe4 ♘d3 32.♖c2 ♘f4 33.♕e3 ♖fe8 34.♖xe8 ♖xe8 35.♕f3∓) 26...♔g7 27.♘b3 ♕c7 28.♘d2 ♘e7 29.♖e1 ♘g8 (29...♖f7 30.♖b1 ♕b6 31.d4 ♘g8 32.♗b3 e4 33.♕h5 ♖e8 34.♗d1 ♗b8 35.♘f1 ♖d8∓) 30.♗b3 ♕f7∓

25...♘g8 26.♗c2 ♕c7 27.a4 ♖d7 28.♘b3

28.♖a1 b5 29.♕g3 (29.♘b3 ♖b8 30.♕g3 ♗b6 31.d4 ♖g7 32.♖fd1 bxa4 33.♖xa4 exd4 34.cxd4 ♖e7 35.♕xc7 (35.♖f1 ♕xg3 36.hxg3 ♗c7 37.♗d1 ♖b5 38.♘c5 ♗b6 39.♘e6 ♖xb2 40.♔g1∓) 35...♗xc7∓) 29...♖b8 30.♘b3 ♗b6 31.d4 ♖e7 32.♗d1 (32.♕f2 e4 33.g3 ♕c8 34.♖fb1 ♖a7∓) 32...b4=

28...♖e7 29.♖ce1 b5 30.♖a1 b4 31.c4 h5 32.gxh5

32.♕xh5+? ♖h7-+

32...♘h6 33.g3

33.cxd5 g4 34.d6 gxh3 35.dxc7 hxg2+ 36.♔xg2 ♘g4 37.♔h1 ♖xc7∓

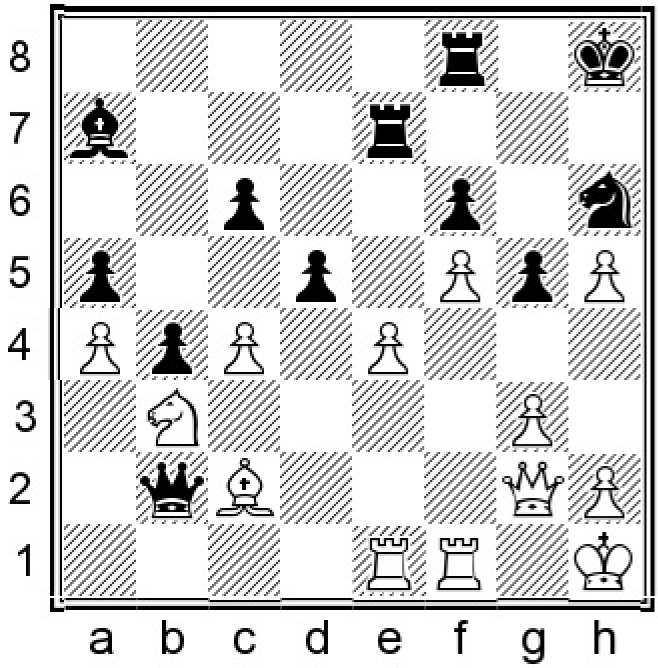
33...e4 34.♖ae1 ♕e5

34...exd3 35.♗xd3 ♖e5 36.c5 ♖fe8 37.♖d1 ♖e3 38.♕g2 ♘g4 39.♘d4 ♗xc5 40.♘e6 ♕d6∓

35.♕g2

35.♘xa5 ♖c8 36.♘b3 ♕xb2 37.♗d1 ♕c3 38.cxd5 cxd5 39.dxe4 ♖ce8∓

35...♕xb2 36.dxe4



36...♘g4! 37.c5

37.♘xa5 ♖c8∓

37...♕c3 38.♕e2 ♘e5 39.♖c1 dxe4 40.♗d1 ♕d3 41.♘xa5

41.♕xd3 ♘xd3 42.♖c2∓

41...♕d8-+ 42.♘b3 ♕d5 43.♗c2 ♘d3 44.♖cd1 ♖d8 45.♕g2 g4 46.a5

46.♗xd3 exd3 47.♕xd5 ♖xd5 48.♖f2

46...♖ed7 47.♗xd3 ♕xb3 48.♗c2 ♕c4 49.♖c1 ♖d2

⌓49...e3 50.♗a4 ♕d5 51.♕xd5 ♖xd5 52.h3 ♗xc5

50.♕xe4 ♕xe4+ 51.♗xe4 b3 52.♖c4 b2 53.a6 ♔h7 0-1

108. * C54
Aronian, Levon (2782) - Nakamura, Hikaru (2736)
chess24.com (Int.-m/1-rapid) 150/108, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.O-O ♘f6 5.d3 O-O 6.h3 d5 7.exd5 ♘xd5 8.♖e1 ♗e6 9.c3

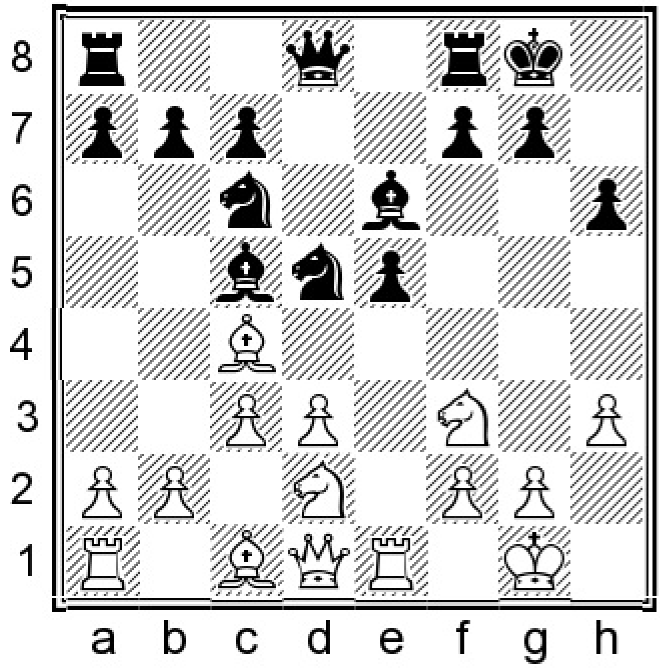
9.♘xe5?? ♘xe5 10.♖xe5 ♗xf2+-+

9...h6

9...♗b6 - 131/113

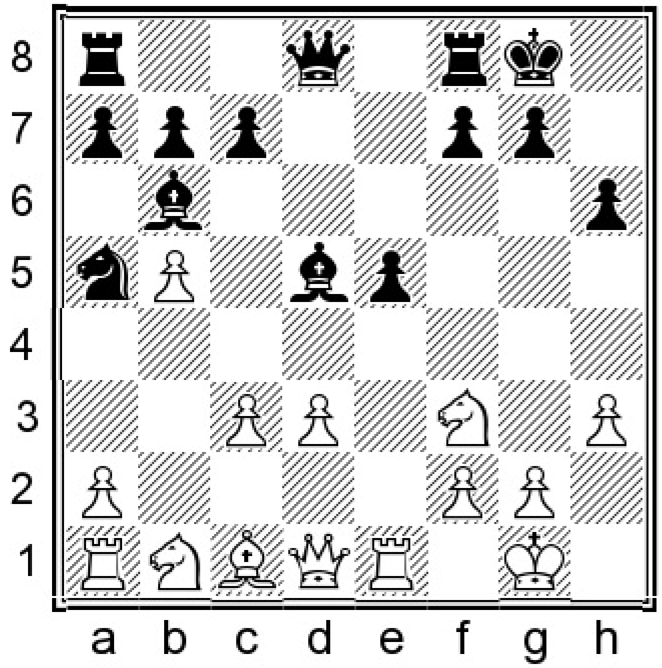
10.b4?!

10.♘bd2



10...♘f4N (10...♖e8; 10...♗d6) 11.♘e4 ♗xc4 12.♗xf4 exf4 13.dxc4 ♕xd1 14.♖axd1 ♗e7 15.♘d4 ♘xd4 16.cxd4 ♖fe8= Aronian,L (2782)-Nakamura,H (2736) chess24.com (Int.-m/3-rapid) 150/(108) 2021

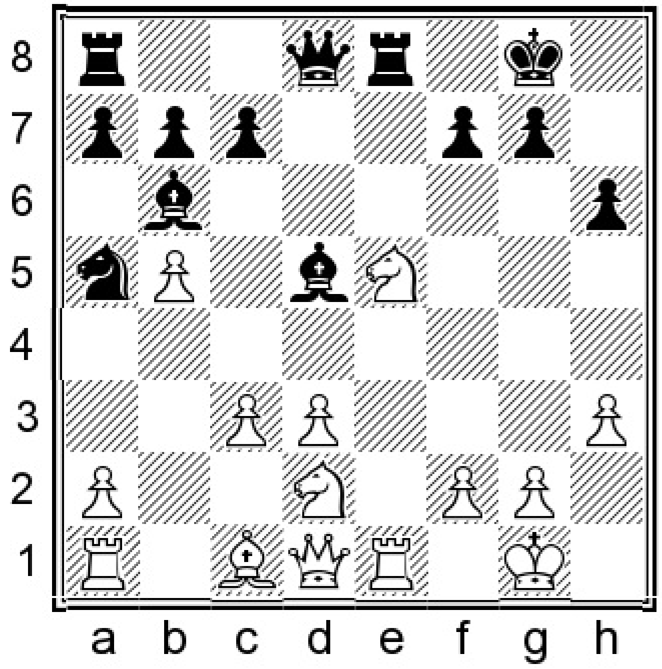
10...♗b6 11.b5 ♘a5 12.♗xd5 ♗xd5



13.♘xe5N

13.♖xe5

13...♖e8 14.♘d2?



14.d4!?

14...♗xf2+!

14...♖xe5?? 15.♖xe5 ♗xf2+ 16.♔h1! ♗g3 17.♖e2 ♕h4 18.♘e4 f5 19.♘xg3 ♕xh3+ 20.♔g1 ♕xg3 21.♖f2+- ×Na5

15.♔xf2 ♖xe5! 16.♔g1?!

16.♖xe5 ♕f6+ 17.♘f3 ♗xf3 18.♕xf3 ♕xe5 19.♗f4 ♕xb5 20.♔g1 ♕b2∓

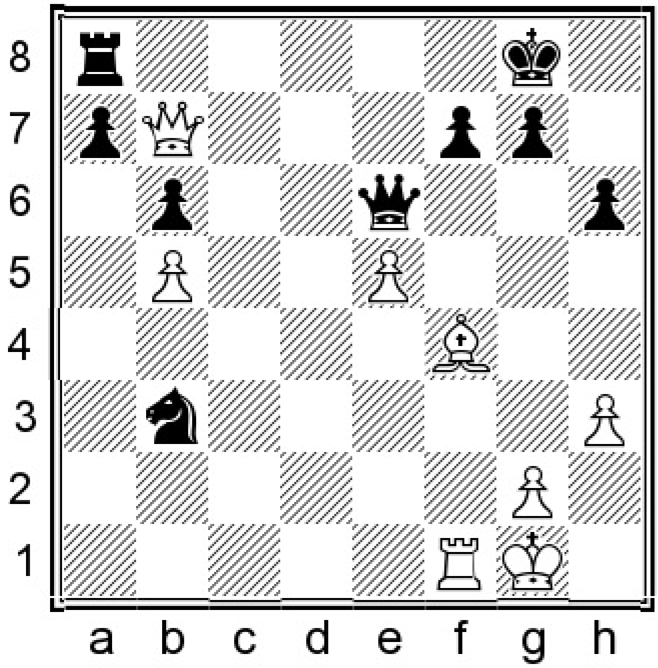
16...♕e7 17.♖f1 ♕c5+ 18.d4 ♕xc3 19.dxe5 ♕xa1 20.♘b3 ♕xa2?

20...♘xb3 21.♕xd5 (21.axb3 ♕xe5-+) 21...♘xc1 22.♕xf7+ ♔h8 23.♕f3 ♕c3-+

21.♕xd5 ♕xb3 22.♕d7 ♕e6 23.♕xc7 b6 24.♗f4 ♘b3?

24...♕d5 25.♗g3 ♘c4∓

25.♕b7?



25.♗e3 ♘c5 26.♗xc5 ♖c8 27.♕xa7 ♖xc5 28.♕a8+ ♔h7 29.♕e4+∞

25...♕c8! 26.♕f3 ♘d4 27.♕d5 ♕d8 28.♕b7 ♕c8 29.♕d5 ♘e6 30.♗e3 ♖b8 31.♕f3 ♕d7 32.♕g3 ♕d3 33.♖f3 ♕g6 34.♕e1 ♖d8 35.♔h2 ♕e4 36.♕a1 ♖d3 37.♕xa7 ♕xe5+ 38.♔g1 ♖xe3 39.♕xf7+ ♔h7 0-1

109. C54
Burke, John M (2554) - Xiong, Jeffery (2700)
USA (ch) 150/109, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.O-O ♘f6 5.d3 d6 6.c3 h6 7.♖e1 O-O 8.h3 a5 9.d4!? ♗a7

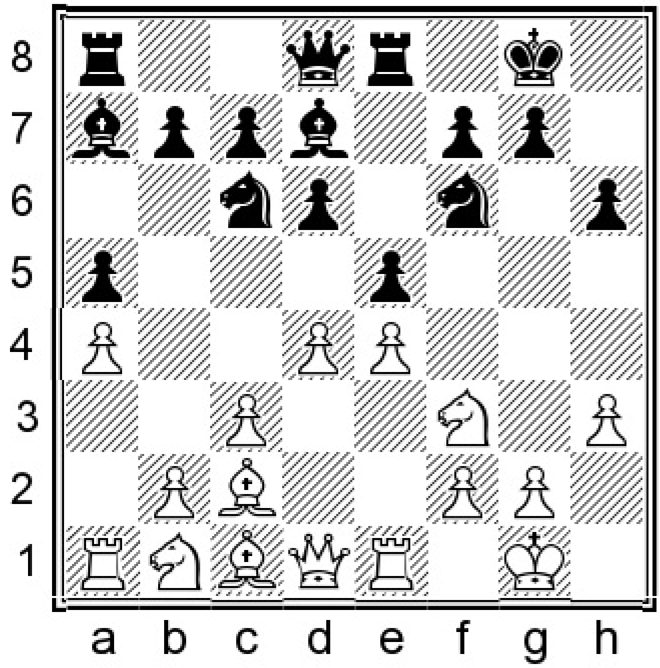
9...♗b6 - 148/111

10.♗b3 ♖e8 11.♗c2 ♗d7

11...d5 12.dxe5 ♘xe4 13.♗e3 ♗xe3 14.♖xe3 ♗f5 15.♕e1 ♗g6 (15...f6 16.exf6 ♕xf6 17.♗b3 ♕f7 18.♘bd2 a4 19.♗xd5 ♕xd5 20.c4 ♕e6 21.♘xe4 ♗xe4 22.♘d2 ♘d4=; 15...♘d6 16.exd6 ♖xe3 17.♕xe3 ♗xc2 18.dxc7 (18.♘a3 ♗e4 19.dxc7 ♕xc7 20.♘d2 ♗f5=) 18...♕xc7 19.♘bd2 a4 20.♖e1

♕a5 21.♘d4 ♘xd4 22.♕xd4 a3 23.b4 ♕c7 24.♖e3 ♖c8 25.♖g3 ♗g6 26.h4 h5 27.♕xd5 ♖d8 28.♕g5 ♔h7=) 16.♘a3 ♘g5 17.♘xg5 ♕xg5 18.♗xg6 fxg6 19.♕f1 ♖ad8 20.♘b5 ♕f5 21.f4 g5 22.fxg5 ♕xg5 23.♖ae1 ♖xe5 24.♖xe5 ♘xe5 25.♘xc7 ♕g3 26.♖e2 ♘g4 27.hxg4 ♕xc7=

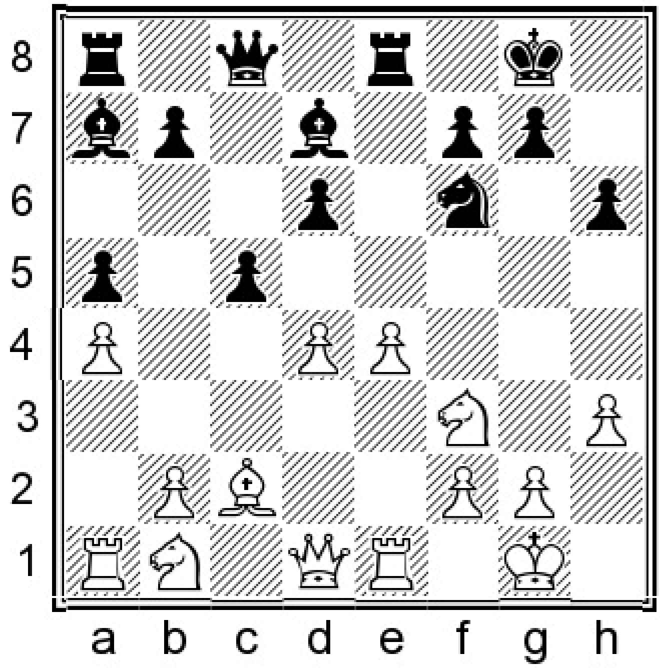
12.a4


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

12...♕c8N

12...exd4 13.cxd4 d5 14.e5 ♘e4 15.♘c3 ♗f5 16.♘xe4 ♗xe4 17.♗xe4 dxe4 18.♖xe4 ♕d5 19.♕d3 f5 20.♖e1 ♖ad8!?

13.♗e3 exd4 14.♗xd4 ♘xd4 15.cxd4 c5?


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

15...c6 16.♕d2 ♕c7 17.♘c3 ♖ad8=

16.e5! ♘d5

16...♘h5 17.♕d3 g6 18.♗b3 ♔g7 19.♘c3 cxd4 20.♘d5!±

17.♕d3 g6 18.♗b3 ♘f4 19.♕e4 ♘e6 20.♕h4 c4 21.♘c3 dxe5 22.♕xh6 ♗c6 23.d5 cxb3 24.♘e4 ♕d8 25.dxe6 1-0

110. * C54
Firouzja, Alireza (2770) - Howell, David (2658)
Riga 150/110, 2021

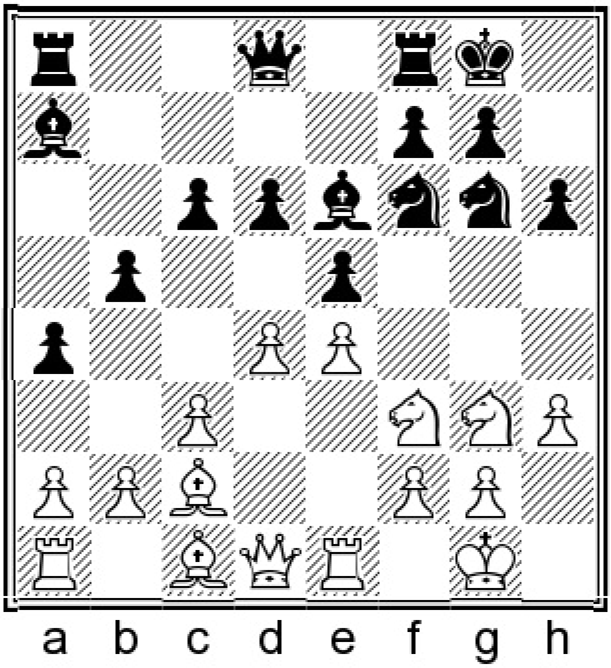
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.O-O ♘f6 5.d3 h6 6.c3 d6 7.♖e1 O-O 8.h3 a5 9.♘bd2 ♗e6 10.♗b5 ♗a7

10...♕b8 - 142/115

11.♘f1 ♘e7 12.♘g3 c6 13.♗a4 b5

13...♘g6 - 127/116

14.♗c2 a4 15.d4 ♘g6

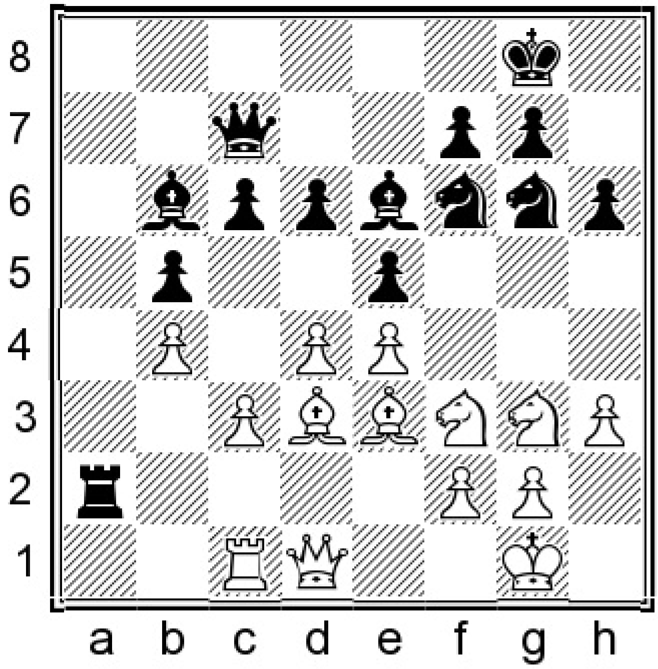


16.♗e3N

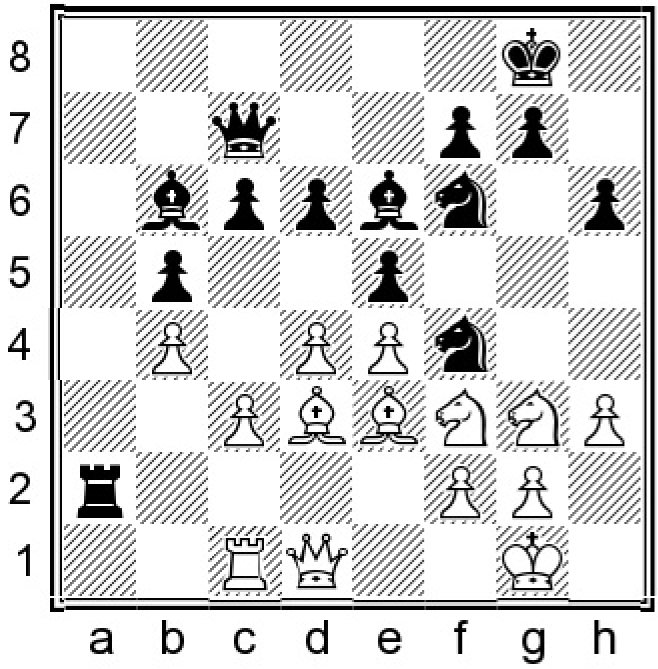
16.b3; 16.♕d2

16...♖e8 17.♗d3 - 150/110

17.b3N axb3 18.axb3 ♕c7 19.♕d2 ♗b6 20.b4 ♖a7 21.♖xa7 ♕xa7 22.♗b1 ♕c7 23.♗d3 ♖a8 24.♖c1 ♖a2 25.♖c2= ♖a1+ 26.♖c1 ♖a2 27.♕d1



(27.♖c2=) 27...♘f4?!



(27...♕a7∞) 28.♗xf4 (28.♗b1! ♖b2 29.♗c2 ♘g6 (29...♖a2 30.♖a1↑ ♕a7 31.♖xa2 ♕xa2 (31...♗xa2 32.♘f5) 32.dxe5 ♗xe3 33.fxe3+-) 30.♖a1 ♖a2 31.♖xa2 ♗xa2 32.♕a1 ♗e6 33.♕a8+ ♔h7 34.♗d3±) 28...exf4 29.♘e2 g5∞ So,W (2772)-Xiong,J (2687) chess.com (Int.-m2/5-blitz) 150/(110) 2021

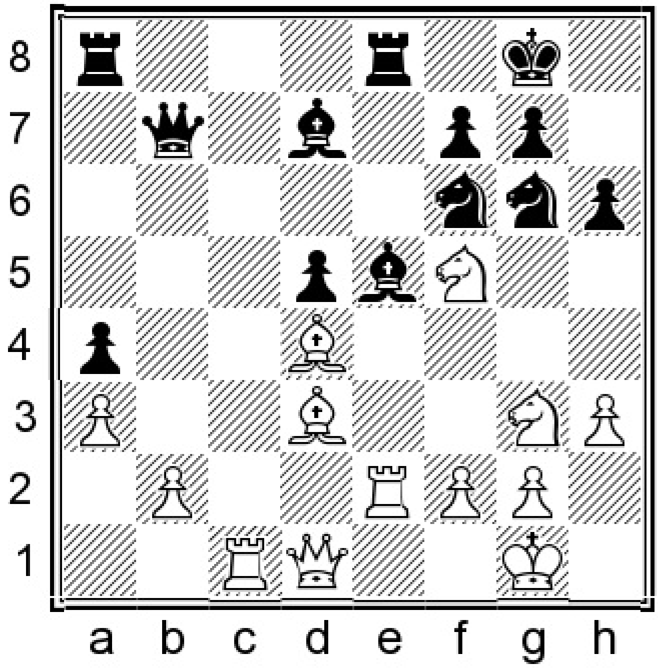
17...♗b6 18.a3 ♕c7 19.♖c1 ♗a5 20.♖e2 ♕b7 21.c4 bxc4 22.♗xc4 d5 23.♗d3 exd4

23...c5! 24.dxc5 d4 25.c6 ♕c7 26.♗d2 ♗b3 27.♗xa5 ♖xa5 28.♕d2 ♘f4 29.♖ee1 ♘e6∞

24.♘xd4 ♗d7?!

24...♗c7

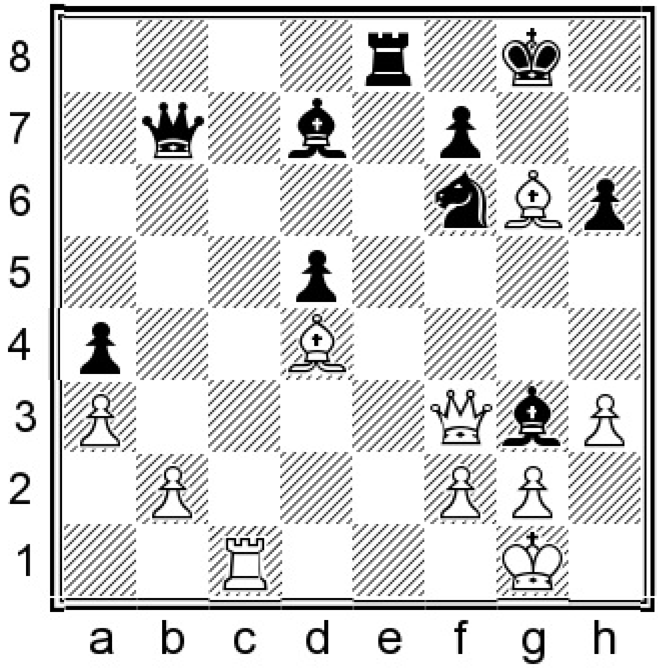
25.♘df5 ♗c7 26.exd5 cxd5 27.♗d4 ♗e5



28.♘xh6+!

28.♖xe5! ♘xe5 29.♘d6 ♕b8 30.♘xe8 ♘xe8 31.♗f5±

28...gxh6 29.♗xg6 ♗xg3 30.♖xe8+ ♖xe8 31.♕f3



31.fxg3 fxg6 32.♗xf6 ♕b3 33.♕xb3 axb3 34.♖c7 ♗f5±

31...♕c6!! 32.♗c2□ ♗b8

32...♗e5 33.♗xe5 ♖xe5 34.♗h7+ ♘xh7 35.♖xc6 ♗xc6 36.♕g4+ ♔h8 37.♕f4±; 32...♕xc2 33.♕xg3+

♕g6 34.♕xg6+ fxg6 35.♗xf6±

33.♕xf6 ♕xf6 34.♗xf6 ♖c8 35.♗c3 d4

35...♗d6 36.♗d3

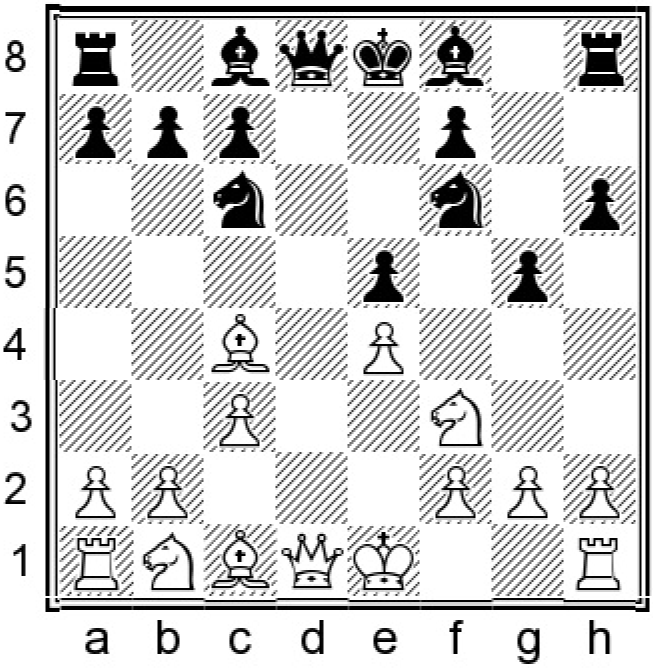
36.♗d2 ♔g7 37.♗d3 ♖xc1+ 38.♗xc1+- h5 39.h4 ♗c6 40.g3 ♗d7 41.♔f1 ♗e5 42.♔e2 ♗g4+ 43.♔d2 ♗d7 44.♔c2 ♗e6 45.♗b5 ♗b3+ 46.♔d3 ♔g6 47.♗d7 ♗d1 48.♗d2 f5 49.♗f4 ♗g7 50.♗d6 ♗f6 51.♗e8+ ♔h6 52.♗c5 f4 53.♗xd4 ♗d8 54.♔d2 ♗b3 55.♗e5 fxg3 56.fxg3 ♗a5+ 57.♔c1 1-0

111. C55
So, Wesley (2778) - Naroditsky, Daniel (2623)
USA (ch) 150/111, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♘f6 4.d3 h6 5.c3 g5!?

5...d6 - 143/107

6.d4 d6 7.dxe5 dxe5



8.♕e2N

8.♕xd8+ ♘xd8 9.♘xe5 (9.h4 g4 10.♘xe5 ♗d6 11.♘d3 ♘xe4 12.♘d2 ♘xd2 13.♗xd2 ♗e6∞) 9...♘xe4 10.O-O ♘d6 11.♗b3 ♗e6∞

8...♗d6

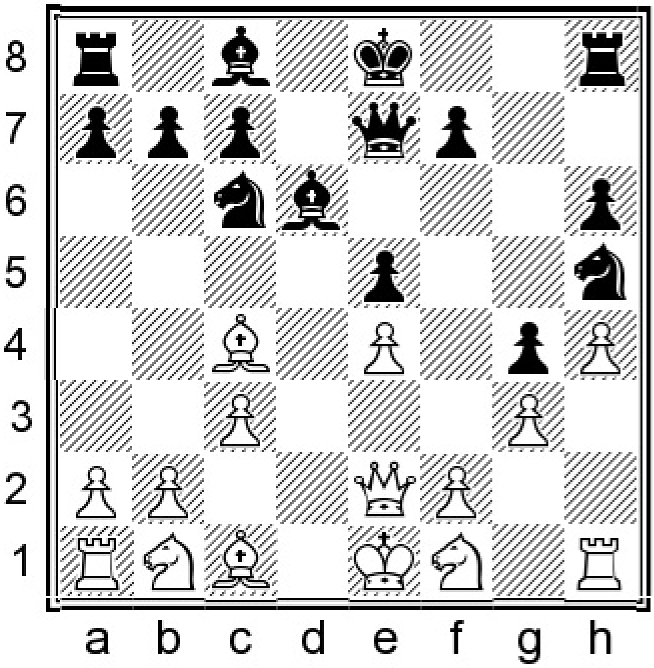
8...g4!? 9.♘fd2 h5∞

9.h4 g4 10.♘h2 ♕e7 11.♘f1?!

11.♘d2 ♗d7 12.g3 O-O-O 13.♘hf1 ♘h5 14.♘e3 ♘f4!? (14...♔b8∞) 15.gxf4 exf4 16.♘d5 (16.♘xg4 h5 17.♘h2 ♘e5⩱) 16...♕f8⩱

11...♘h5 12.♘e3

12.g3



12...♘f4! 13.gxf4 exf4∓

12...♘f4 13.♕f1

13.♘d5 ♘xe2 14.♘xe7 ♔xe7 15.♔xe2 ♘d8∓

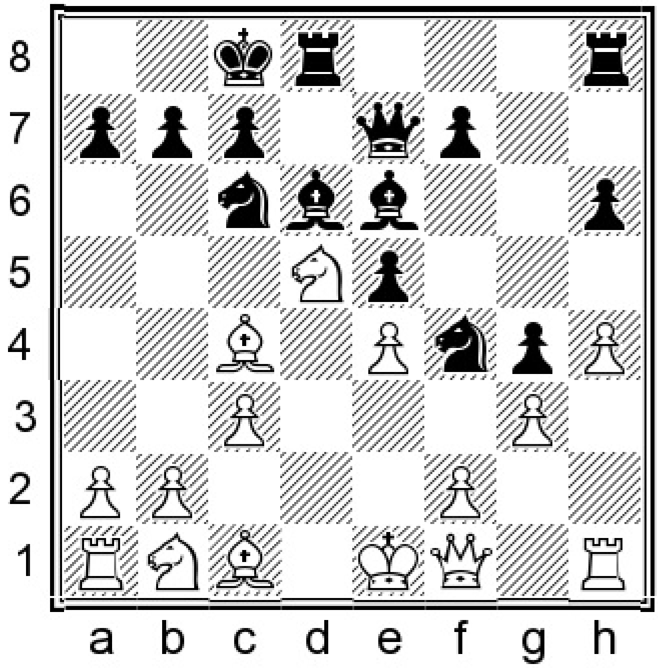
13...♗e6

13...♗d7! 14.♘d2 O-O-O∓

14.g3?!

14.♘d5

14...O-O-O! 15.♘d5



15...♗xd5?

15...♕d7! 16.♘f6 (16.gxf4 exf4-+) 16...♗xc4 17.♕xc4 ♘a5 18.♘xd7 (18.♕f1 ♕a4∓) 18...♘xc4 19.gxf4 ♖xd7 20.b3 exf4! 21.bxc4 ♗e5∓

16.exd5 ♘a5 17.gxf4 exf4+ 18.♔d1 ♘xc4 19.♕xc4 g3

19...♖he8!? 20.♗d2 g3 21.fxg3 fxg3 22.♔c2 ♕e2 23.♕xe2 ♖xe2∞

20.fxg3 fxg3 21.♖e1 ♕f6?

21...♕d7 22.♔c2 g2 23.♗e3 ♖he8 24.♘d2 ♗g3 25.♖e2 b5! (25...♖xe3 26.♖xe3 ♗f2 27.♖e5 g1=Q 28.♖xg1 ♗xg1 29.♘e4±) 26.♕c6 ♕f5+ 27.♔d1 (27.♔b3? ♕xd5+ 28.♕xd5 ♖xd5∓) 27...♖xe3 28.♕a8+ ♔d7 29.♕c6+ ♔c8=

22.♘d2 ♔b8 23.♘e4 ♕f5 24.♗e3?

24.♘xd6 ♖xd6 25.♕e4 ♖xd5+ 26.♔c2 g2 (26...♕d7 27.♗f4+-) 27.♕xf5 ♖xf5 28.♗e3±

24...♖he8 25.♘xd6

25.♗g1 ♖e5 26.♘xd6 ♖xd5+ 27.♔c1 ♖8xd6 (27...♖5xd6?! 28.♕c5±) 28.♖e8+ ♖d8 29.♖xd8+ ♖xd8 30.b4 g2 31.♔b2 ♖d2+ 32.♔a3 b5 33.♕c6 ♕c2=; 25.♗d4 ♕g4+ 26.♔d2 ♕f4+ 27.♔d1 ♕g4+=

25...♖xd6 26.♗xa7+

26.b4 ♖xd5+ 27.♗d4 ♖xe1+ 28.♔xe1 g2 29.♔d2 b6∞

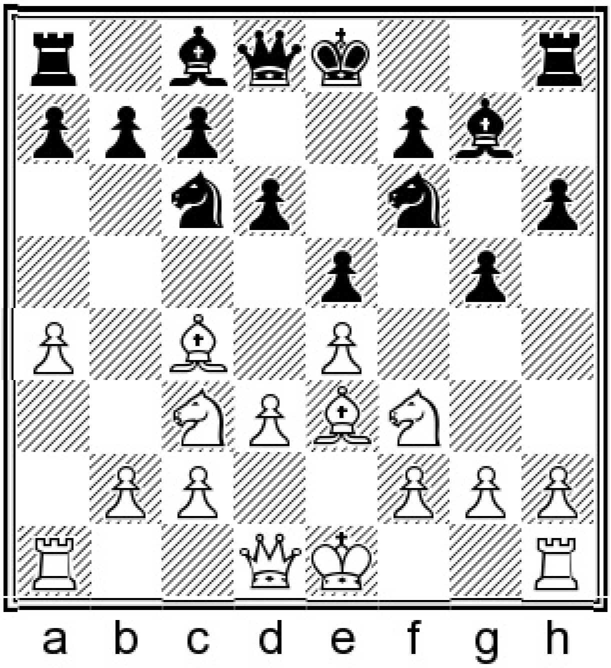
26...♔xa7 27.♕a4+ ♔b6 28.♕b4+ ♔a6 29.♕a4+ ♔b6 30.♕b3+ ♔a7 31.♕a4+ ♔b6 1/2-1/2

112. C55
Svidler, Peter (2714) - Xiong, Jeffery (2710)
Saint Louis 150/112, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♘f6 4.d3 h6 5.a4

5.O-O - 143/108

5...d6 6.♘c3 g5 7.♗e3 ♗g7



8.h4!?N

8.♕d2

8...g4 9.♘h2 ♘e7

9...♘d4!? 10.♘b5 O-O 11.O-O± (11.♘xd4 exd4 12.♗xd4 d5 13.exd5 ♖e8+ 14.♔f1 g3 15.fxg3 ♘xd5 16.♗f2 ♗xb2 17.♖b1 ♗g7=∞)

10.♕e2 c6 11.d4 exd4 12.♗xd4± ♘g6 13.O-O-O ♕e7 14.♗xf6

14.♘f1 O-O 15.♘e3± ♘xe4?! 16.♘xe4 ♕xe4 17.♗xg7 ♔xg7 18.♖xd6+-

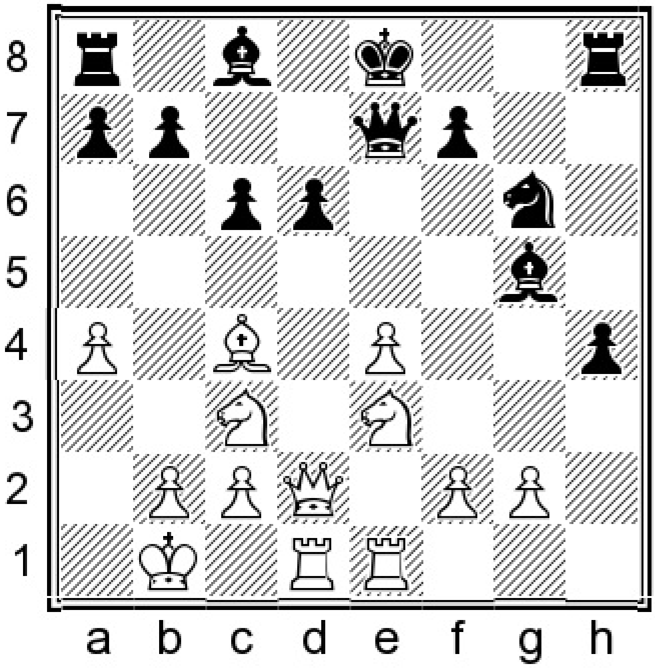
14...♗xf6

14...♕xf6 15.♘xg4 ♗xg4 16.♕xg4 ♘e5 17.♕e2 O-O-O 18.♗b3±

15.♘xg4 ♗xh4

15...♗xc3 16.bxc3 ♗xg4 17.♕xg4 ♘e5 18.♕e2 O-O-O 19.♖d4±

16.♘e3 ♗f6 17.♕d2 h5 18.♔b1 h4 19.♖he1 ♗g5



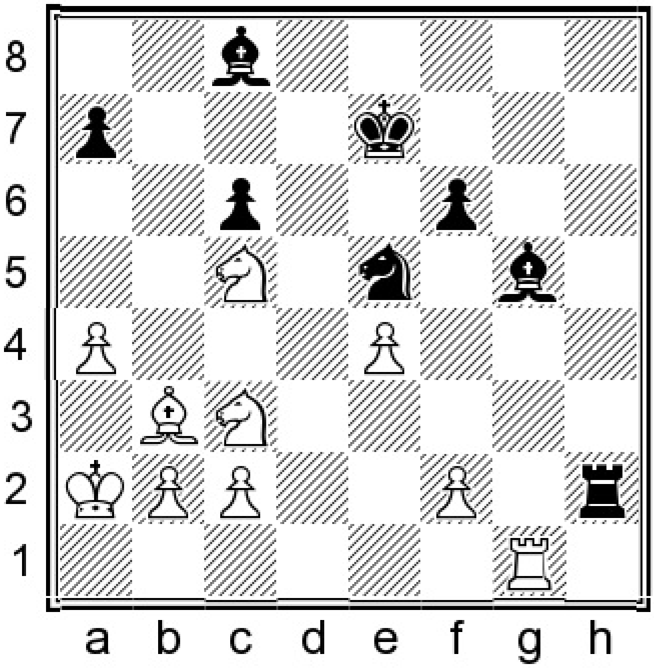
20.♕xd6?

20.e5! ♕xe5 (20...dxe5 21.♘e4 O-O 22.♘xg5 ♕xg5 23.g3 h3 24.f4! exf4 25.gxf4 ♕xf4 26.♖g1 ♕h6 27.♕d3 ♔h7 28.♖g3+- Δ Rdg1; 20...♘xe5 21.♘e4!? ♘xc4 22.♕d4 ♘e5 23.♘xd6+ ♔f8 24.♘ef5 c5 25.♕c3 ♗xf5 26.♖xe5 ♗f6 27.♖xe7 ♗xc3 28.♖xf7+ ♔g8 29.♖xf5+-; 20...d5 21.♗xd5 cxd5 22.♘cxd5 ♕c5 23.f4 ♗h6 24.♘f6+ ♔f8 25.♕d8+ ♔g7 26.♘h5+ ♔h7 27.♕f6 ♖f8 28.f5 ♘xe5 29.♕xh4+- (29.♖d5 ♕b4 30.♖h1+-)) 21.♕d3 ♘f4 22.♕f1 O-O 23.♗b3!± Δ Nc4, g3

20...♕xd6 21.♖xd6 ♘e5 22.♗b3 h3 23.gxh3 ♗xh3 24.♘f5 ♖d8 25.♔a2 ♖xd6

25...♗g4 26.♖xd8+ ♔xd8 27.♘d6 f6 28.♘xb7+ ♔c7 29.♘c5 ♖h2=∞

26.♘xd6+ ♔e7 27.♘xb7 ♗c8 28.♘c5 ♖h2 29.♖g1 f6



30.f4

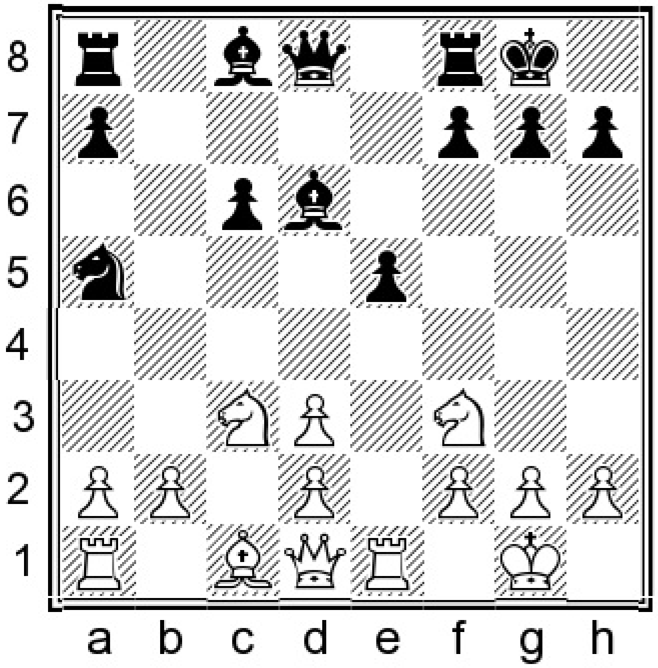
30.♘d1 ♖h3 31.f4 ♗xf4 32.♖g7+ ♔d6 33.♘b7+ ♗xb7 34.♖xb7 a5 35.♖a7 ♖h1 36.c3 (36.♘f2 ♖f1 37.♘d3 ♘xd3 38.cxd3 ♖f2 39.♖xa5 ♗e5=) 36...♘d3 37.♗c2 ♘c1+ 38.♔b1 ♘d3=; 30.♘d3 ♘xd3 31.cxd3 ♖xf2 32.a5±

30...♗xf4 31.♖g8 ♗e3 32.♘d3 ♘xd3 33.cxd3 ♗a6 34.♖g7+ ♔d6 35.♗c4 ♗xc4+ 36.dxc4 a5 37.♖f7 ♗d4 38.♔b3 ♖h4 39.♖f8 ♔c5 40.♖a8 ♔b6 41.♖b8+ ♔c5 42.♖a8 ♔b6 43.♖b8+ ♔c5 44.♖a8 1/2-1/2

113. ** C58
Piorun, Kacper (2623) - Demchenko, Anton (2654)
Deutschland 150/113, 2021

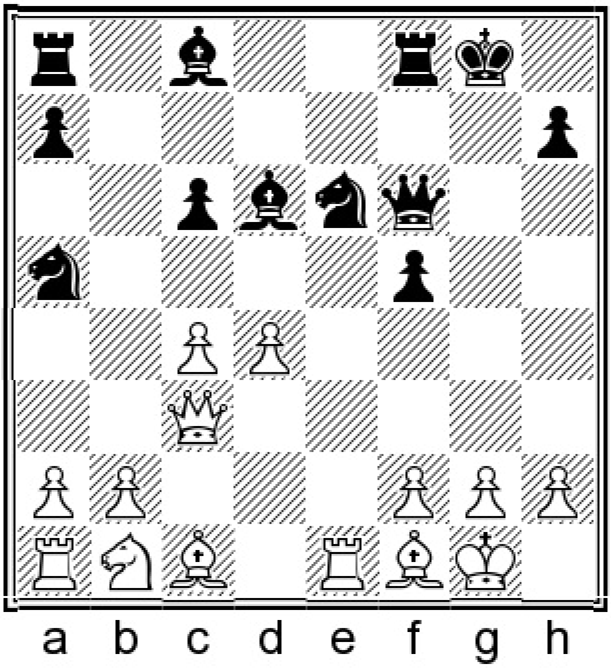
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♘f6 4.♘g5 d5 5.exd5 ♘a5 6.♗b5+ c6 7.dxc6 bxc6 8.♗d3 ♘d5 9.♘f3 ♗d6 10.O-O O-O

10...♘f4 11.♖e1 ♘xd3 12.cxd3 O-O 13.♘c3



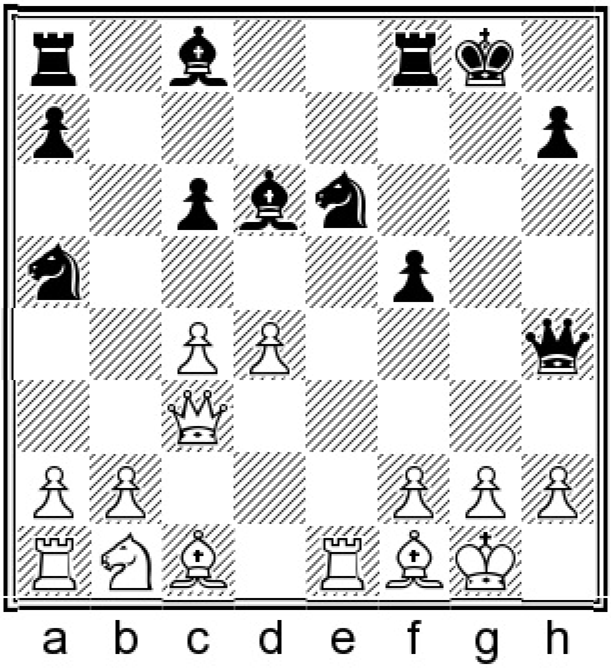
13...♖e8 (13...f6 14.♘e4 ♗e7 15.b4! ♗xb4 16.♕a4 ♗e7 17.♗a3±; 13...c5 14.b3 f6 (14...♗b7 15.♘e4 ♘c6 16.♗a3 ♘b4 17.♗xb4 cxb4 18.♘xd6 ♕xd6 19.♘xe5±; 14...♘c6 - 143/(109)) 15.♗a3 ♘b7 16.♘e4 (16.♖c1 ♕a5 17.♘a4 ♗d7 18.♖c4 ♖ac8∞) 16...♗e7 17.b4!? ♕xd3 18.♖e3 ♕d5 19.bxc5 ♘xc5 20.d4 ♘xe4 21.♗xe7 ♖e8 22.dxe5 ♕xd1+ 23.♖xd1 ♖xe7 24.♖xe4 ♗b7 25.♖a4 ♗xf3 26.gxf3 fxe5=) 14.♘e4 (14.b4 ♗xb4 15.♘xe5 ♗a6 16.♗b2 f6 17.♕a4 fxe5 18.♕xb4 ♖b8 19.♕a3 ♗xd3 20.♘a4 (20.♘d1!? ♘c4 21.♕c3 ♖e6 22.♗a3 ♖g6 23.♘b2 ♘xb2 24.♗xb2 ♕d5 25.g3 e4 26.♕e5=) 20...♘c4 21.♕c3 a5 (21...♖b5!? 22.♖ac1 ♕d5 23.♗a1 ♖eb8 24.f4 ♕d6 25.fxe5 ♕g6⇄) 22.♗a3 (22.♖ac1 ♖b4 23.a3 ♖b5!∓) 22...♕d4 23.♕xd4 exd4 24.♖xe8+ ♖xe8 25.♗c5 ♖d8 26.♖c1 ♘xd2 27.♘b2 ♗b5 28.♗b6 ♖d5 29.♗xa5 ♘f3+ 30.♔h1 (30.gxf3? ♖g5+ 31.♔h1 ♗e2-+) 30...♘e5 31.♗b4 g5 32.a4 ♗e2 33.♖c5=) 14...c5 15.b3 ♗f8 (15...♗a6!? 16.♘fg5 h6 17.♘xd6 ♕xd6 18.♘e4 ♕d5 19.♗a3 ♗xd3 20.♘xc5 ♗f5 21.♖c1 ♘c6 Δ Rac8) 16.♗a3 ♘c6 17.♖c1 ♘b4 18.♗xb4 cxb4 19.♘g3 ♗b7 20.♖xe5 ♕xd3 (20...♖xe5 21.♘xe5 ♕d4 22.♘c4 ♖d8 23.♕e2 g6 24.♘f1! ♕xd3 25.♕xd3 ♖xd3 26.♘a5±) 21.♖e3 ♕b5 22.d4 ♖ed8=∞ Δ a5 Stoica,Valentin

11.♖e1 f5 12.♘xe5 ♕f6 13.♘f3 g5 14.c4 ♘f4 15.♗f1 g4 16.d4 gxf3 17.♕xf3 ♘e6 18.♕c3



18.c5 - 146/110

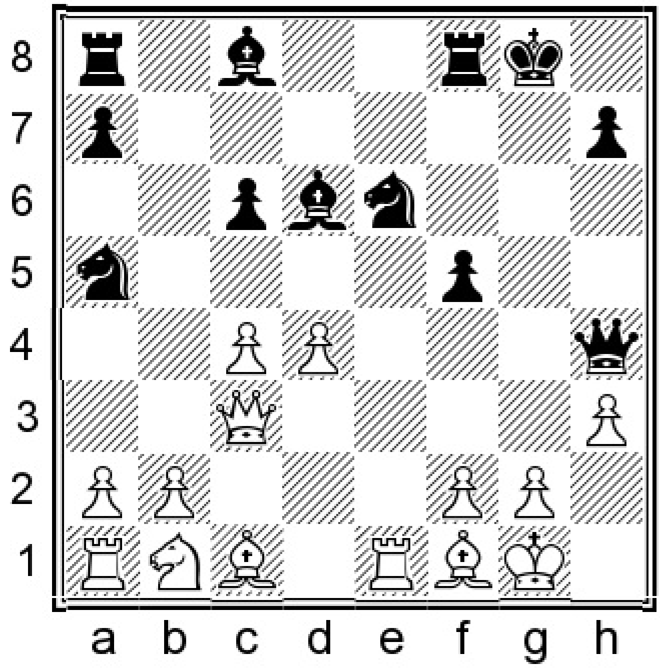
18...♕h4N



18...♘xd4; 18...c5 - 149/(109); 18...♘b7 19.c5 ♗c7 20.b4 a5⇄ - 147/107

19.g3?N

19.h3



- 150/(113) 19...♘b7? - 150/(113) (19...♕xd4? 20.♕xa5+-; 19...♘xd4? 20.c5! ♗c7 21.b4+-; 19...c5!N 20.♕xa5 ♘xd4 21.♗e3? Deac,B (2643) -Demchenko,A (2651) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(113) 2021 (21.♗e3 ♘f3+! 22.gxf3 f4 23.♗xc5 (23.♗d2 ♔f7 24.♗g2 ♖g8-+) 23...♖f5 24.♖e8+ ♔f7 25.♖xc8 ♖xc8 26.♕xa7+ ♖c7-+; 21.♘c3 f4 22.♖d1 ♗b7∞)) 20.c5! ♗c7 21.♗c4 (21.b4!?) 21...♘d8 22.♘d2 ♖e8 23.♘f3 ♕h5 24.d5 cxd5 25.♗xd5+- ♖b8 26.b4 h6 27.♗b2 ♔h7 28.♗xe6 ♘xe6 29.♖xe6 ♗e5 30.♕xe5 1-0 (30) Deac,B (2625) -Shahade,G (2476) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(113) 2021

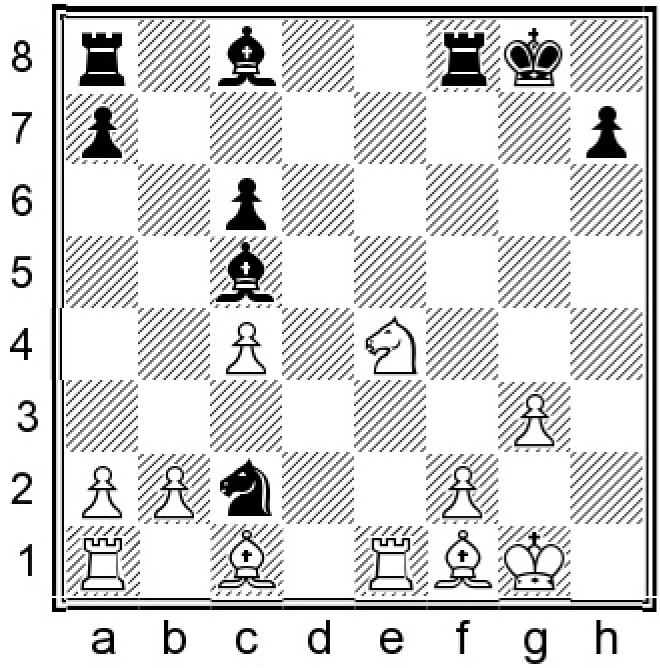
19...♕xd4 20.♕xa5 f4 21.♕d2

21.gxf4 ♖f6! 22.♕c3 ♖g6+ 23.♗g2 ♗c5 24.♕f3 ♕g7∓; 21.♖xe6 ♗xe6 22.♕g5+ ♕g7 (22...♔h8?! 23.♗d2!∞) 23.♕xg7+ ♔xg7∓

21...♗c5 22.♕xd4

22.♖e2? fxg3 23.hxg3 ♕g4-+

22...♘xd4 23.♘d2 fxg3 24.hxg3 ♘c2 25.♘e4



25...♗xf2+

25...♘xe1! 26.♘xc5 ♗g4! 27.♗f4 (27.♘b3 ♘f3+ 28.♔g2 ♖f5∓) 27...♘f3+ 28.♔g2 ♖f5 29.♗e2 ♘h4+! 30.♔f1 ♗xe2+ 31.♔xe2 ♖xc5∓

26.♘xf2 ♘xe1 27.♗f4 ♖e8 28.c5 ♘f3+ 29.♔h1 ♗f5?!

29...♖e1! 30.♖xe1 ♘xe1∓

30.♗g2 ♘e5 31.♘e4?!

31.b4 ♖ab8 32.a3=∞

31...♗xe4 32.♗xe4 ♖ad8 33.b4 ♔g7 34.♗g2 h5 35.♖b1 ♖e6 36.a4 ♘d3 37.♗d6 ♘f2+ 38.♔g1 ♘e4 39.♗c7

39.♗xe4 ♖xe4 40.b5 cxb5 41.axb5=

39...♖de8 40.♖d1 ♖6e7 41.♗d8 ♖f7 42.♗h4 ♖e6 43.♖c1 ♘d2 44.b5 ♘f3+ 45.♔h1?!

45.♗xf3 ♖xf3 46.♖b1 cxb5 47.axb5 ♖ee3 48.c6=

45...♘xh4

45...♘e1! 46.♗h3 (46.♗xc6 ♖f1+ 47.♔h2 ♘f3+ 48.♗xf3 ♖xc1 49.b6 axb6 50.cxb6 ♖xb6 51.♗xh5∓) 46...♖e2 47.g4! ♘d3 (47...♘f3 48.♗g3 h4 49.♗d6=) 48.♖g1 ♖e5 49.bxc6 ♖xc5 50.gxh5+ ♔h6 51.♖f1 ♖xf1+ 52.♗xf1 ♔xh5∓

46.gxh4 ♖fe7

46...♖f4 47.b6 ♖xh4+ 48.♔g1 ♖xa4 (48...♖b4 49.a5 axb6 50.cxb6=) 49.♖b1 axb6 50.cxb6 ♖a8 51.b7 ♖b8 52.♖b6=

47.♔h2

47.b6 axb6 48.cxb6 ♖e1+ 49.♖xe1 ♖xe1+ 50.♔h2 ♖b1 51.a5 ♖b5 52.♗xc6 ♖xa5 53.b7 ♖a2+ 54.♔g3 ♖b2=

47...cxb5 48.axb5 ♖g6

48...♖c7 49.c6 ♖e5 50.♖b1=

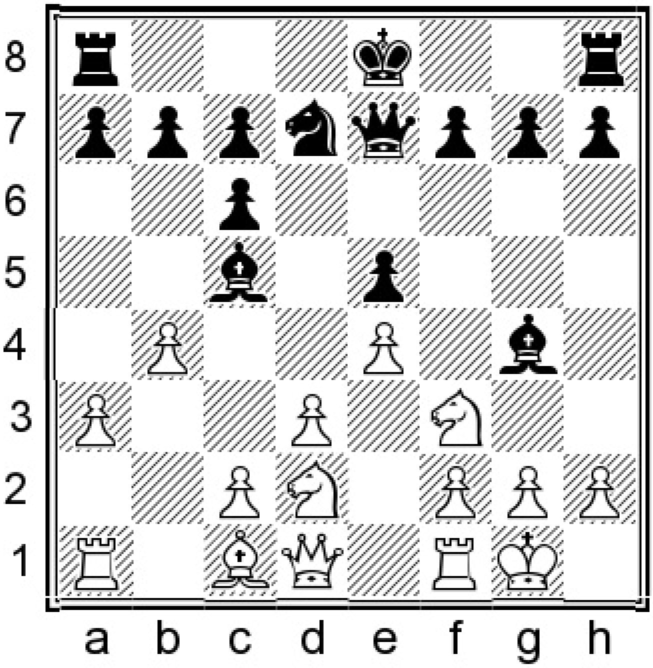
49.♗f3 ♖f6 50.♗xh5 ♖h6 1/2-1/2

114. C65
Saric, Ivan (2649) - Bosiocic, Marin (2603)
Hrvatska 150/114, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4.d3 ♗c5 5.♗xc6 dxc6 6.O-O ♕e7 7.♘bd2 ♗g4 8.a3

8.♘c4 - 130/118

8...♘d7 9.b4

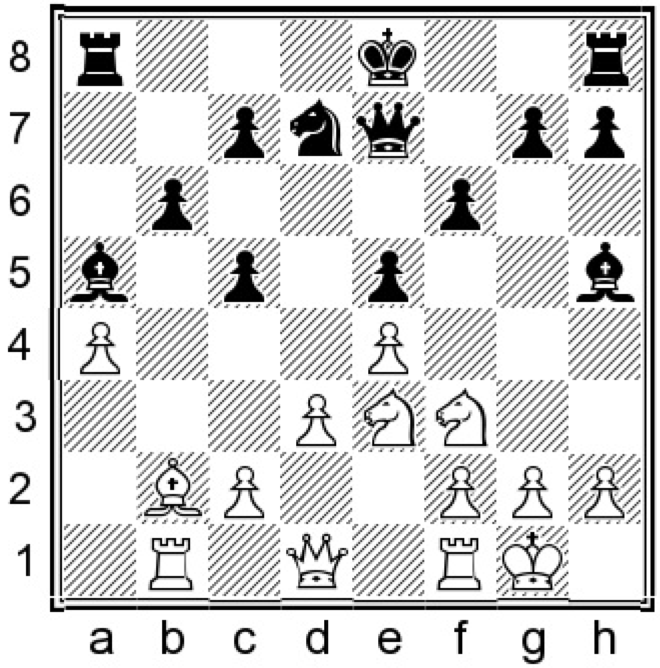


9...♗b6N

9...♗d6

10.♘c4 f6 11.a4 a5 12.bxa5 ♗xa5 13.♗a3 c5 14.♖b1 b6 15.♘e3 ♗e6?

15...♗h5 16.♗b2



(16.♘f5 ♕f7 17.h3 O-O∞ (17...♘b8∞)) 16...♘b8! 17.g4 ♗f7 18.♘h4 ♕d7 19.f4 (19.♘hf5 ♗e6 20.f4 (20.g5 ♘c6 21.gxf6 gxf6 22.♕h5+ ♔d8 23.♔h1 ♔c8∞) 20...♘c6∞) 19...exf4 20.♘ef5 (20.♘d5 ♘c6 21.♘f5 O-O-O∞) 20...♖g8 21.♘g2 ♘c6 22.♘xf4 O-O-O∞

16.d4!± exd4

16...♗b4 17.d5 ♗xa3 18.dxe6 ♕xe6 19.♘d5 ♖c8 20.♕d3 ♗b4 21.♖fd1 ♗a5 22.♘h4±

17.♘xd4 ♘e5

⌓17...O-O 18.♘ef5 ♗xf5 19.♘xf5 ♕e8 20.♖b3±

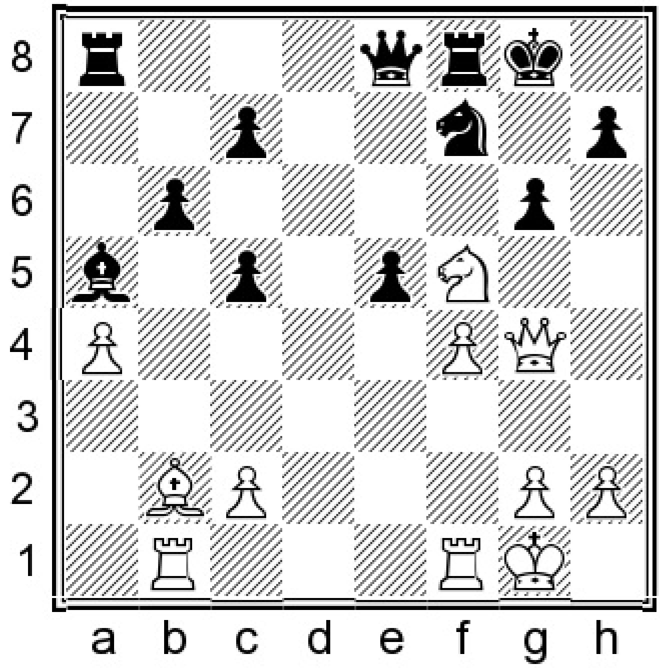
18.♕e2 O-O 19.f4 ♘f7 20.♘ef5 ♗xf5 21.♘xf5 ♕e8 22.e5! fxe5?

22...g6 23.e6 gxf5 24.e7 ♘d6 25.exf8=Q+ ♔xf8±

23.♕g4

23.♗b2! g6 24.fxe5 ♕e6 (24...gxf5 25.e6 ♘h8 26.♕e5+-) 25.♘e3 ♘h6 (25...♖ae8 26.♘g4 ♘d8 27.♖bd1+-) 26.c4 ♖xf1+ 27.♖xf1 ♖f8 28.♖xf8+ ♔xf8 29.♕f3+ ♘f7 30.♕d5+-

23...g6 24.♗b2



24...c4?

24...♗d2! 25.h4! (25.fxe5 ♘xe5 26.♕g3 ♕e6 27.♗xe5 ♖xf5 28.♖xf5 ♕xf5 29.♕b3+ ♕f7=; 25.♖bd1 ♖d8 26.♖xd2!? ♖xd2 27.fxe5 ♖d5∞) 25...♖xa4 (25...♗xf4? 26.♖xf4 exf4 27.h5+-) 26.h5 ♗xf4 27.hxg6 ♗e3+ 28.♘xe3 ♖xg4 29.gxf7+ ♖xf7 30.♘xg4 ♖xf1+ 31.♖xf1 ♕e6 32.♖f5±

25.fxe5+- c3 26.♗a3 c5 27.♖be1 ♘xe5 28.♕g3 ♕xa4 29.♘e7+ 1-0

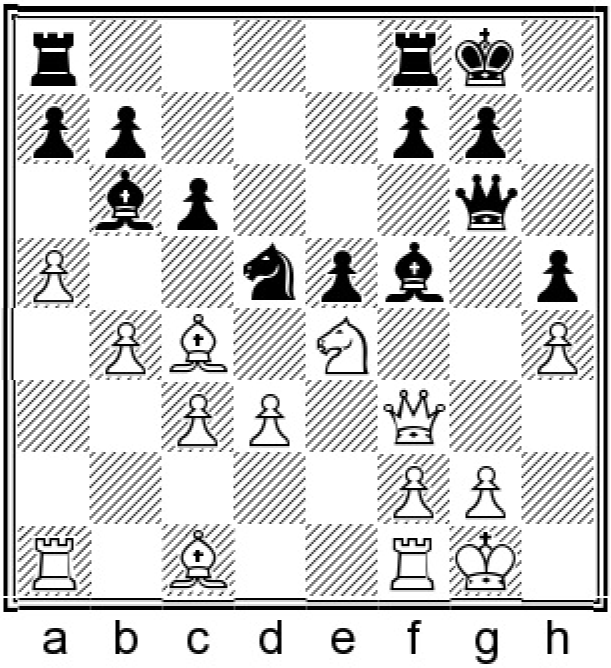
115. * C65**
Matlakov, Maxim (2682) - Goryachkina, Aleksandra (2602)
Russia (ch) 150/115, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4.d3 ♗c5 5.c3 d5 6.exd5 ♕xd5 7.♗c4 ♕d6 8.♘bd2

8.b4 - 145/108

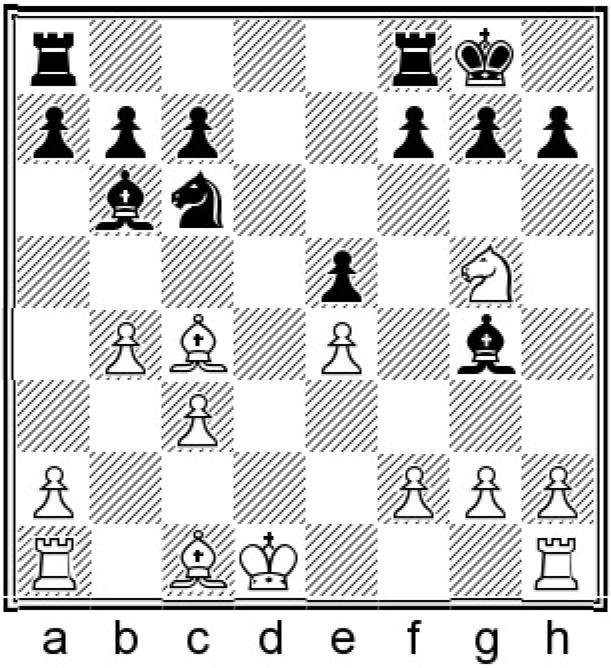
8...♗f5 9.b4 ♗b6 10.♘g5 O-O 11.♘de4 ♘xe4 12.dxe4

12.♘xe4 ♕g6 13.♕f3 ♘e7 14.h4 h5 15.O-O c6 16.a4 ♘d5 17.a5



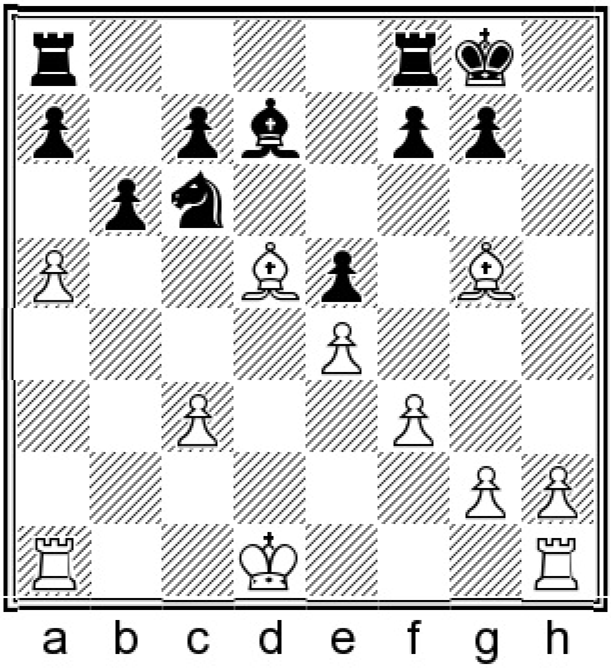
17...♗d8N (17...♗c7) 18.♗g5 ♔h8 19.♖fe1 f6 20.♗e3 ♗c7∞ Siigur,J-Ellis,L corr 150/ (115) 2020

12...♕xd1+ 13.♔xd1 ♗g4+

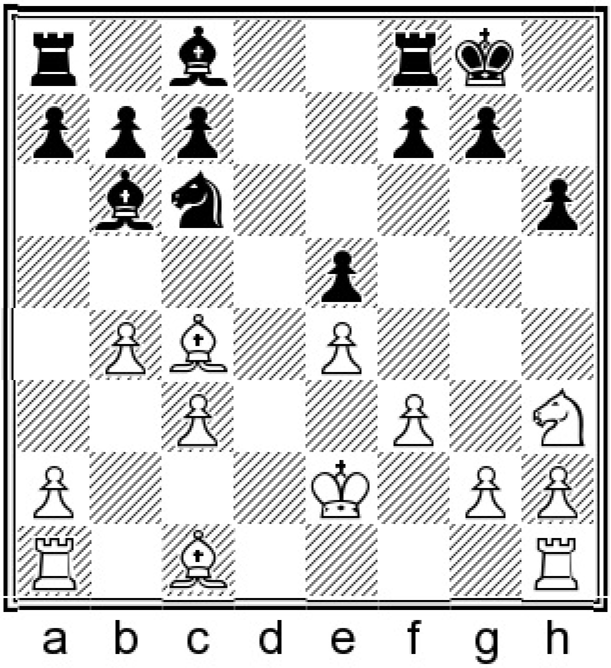


14.♔c2N

14.f3 - 150/(115) 14...♗c8 (14...♗d7 15.a4 h6 16.a5 hxg5 17.♗xg5 ♗xa5 18.bxa5 b6 19.♗d5



19...♘xa5N (19...♖ac8) 20.♗e7 ♖fe8 21.♗xa8 ♖xa8 22.♔e2 ♗e6=∞ Kollars,D (2607) -Heimann,A (2599) Dortmund 150/(115) 2021) 15.♔e2 (15.a4 a5 16.b5 ♘d8 17.♗a3 ♖e8 18.♔c2 h6 19.♘h3 ♗e6 20.♗d5 c6 21.bxc6 bxc6 22.♗xe6 ♘xe6=) 15...h6 16.♘h3



16...♗xh3N (16...♘d8) 17.gxh3 ♘e7 18.a4 a5 19.bxa5 ♖xa5 20.♗a3 ♗c5 21.♗b4 ♗xb4 22.cxb4 ♖aa8 23.b5 b6 24.♖hd1 ♖ad8= Simanowski, A-Lindberg,W corr 150/(115) 2020

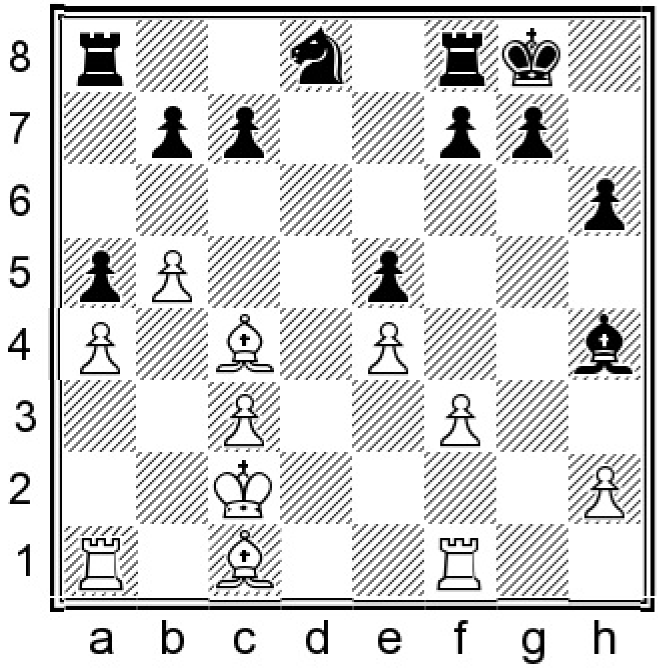
14...h6 15.♘f3 ♗xf3?!

15...♗xf2 16.♖f1 ♗b6 17.a4 a6 18.♗a3 ♖fe8 19.♘h4 ♗e6 20.♗xe6 ♖xe6 21.♖ad1 ♖d8 22.♘f5=∞

16.gxf3 ♗xf2 17.♖f1 ♗h4 18.a4 a5?!

18...♖fd8 19.a5 a6 20.♗d5±

19.b5 ♘d8



20.f4! ♖e8

20...exf4 21.♗xf4 ♖c8 22.♖g1↑

21.f5 b6 22.♖g1 ♔f8 23.♗e3 ♘b7 24.♗d5 ♖ab8 25.♖g4 ♗f6 26.♖d1 ♖ed8 27.♖g2

27.♗c1!? ♘d6 28.♗a3 ♗e7 29.♖dg1 ♘e8 30.f6! ♘xf6 (30...♗xa3 31.fxg7+ ♘xg7 32.♖xg7 ♖xd5 33.exd5 ♗c5 34.♖1g2+-) 31.♖xg7 ♖xd5 32.♗xe7+ ♔xe7 33.exd5 ♘xd5 34.♖g8 ♖xg8 35.♖xg8±

27...♔e7 28.♗c1 ♗g5 29.♗a3+ ♔f6 30.♖g4

30.♖d3 ♘d6 31.c4±

30...♘d6

30...♗e3 31.♖d3 ♗f4 (31...♗c5 32.♗c1↑) 32.♖g2±

31.c4 ♗e3 32.♗b2 ♗c5 33.♗c3 ♘e8 34.♗e1 ♔e7 35.♗c3

35.♖d3 Δ Rdg3±

35...♗d6?

35...f6 36.♖d3 ♖d7 37.♖dg3 ♔f8

36.♖dg1 ♗c5 37.♖1g2 ♗d6 38.♔b3 ♖bc8 39.♗b7 ♖b8 40.♗d5 ♖dc8 41.♗e1

41.♖xg7! ♘xg7 42.♖xg7 ♖f8 43.♗d2+-

41...♔f8 42.♗c6 ♗e7 43.♗xe8 ♖xe8 44.♖xg7 ♗f6

44...♗g5 45.♖h7 ♖bd8 (45...♔g8? 46.♖xh6+-) 46.h4 ♗f6 47.♖xh6+-

45.♖g8+

45.♖h7+-

45...♔e7 46.♖xe8+ ♖xe8 47.c5 ♗g5 48.cxb6 cxb6 49.♗f2 ♖b8 50.♗g1 ♖d8

50...♔d7 51.♖c2 ♗d8 52.♖c6 f6 53.♖e6 h5 54.♗f2 Δ Bh4+-

51.♗xb6 ♖d3+ 52.♔c4 ♖d1 53.♗xa5 ♖d4+ 54.♔b3 ♖xe4 55.♖c2 ♖e3+ 56.♖c3 1-0

116. C65
Burke, John M (2554) - So, Wesley (2778)
USA (ch) 150/116, 2021

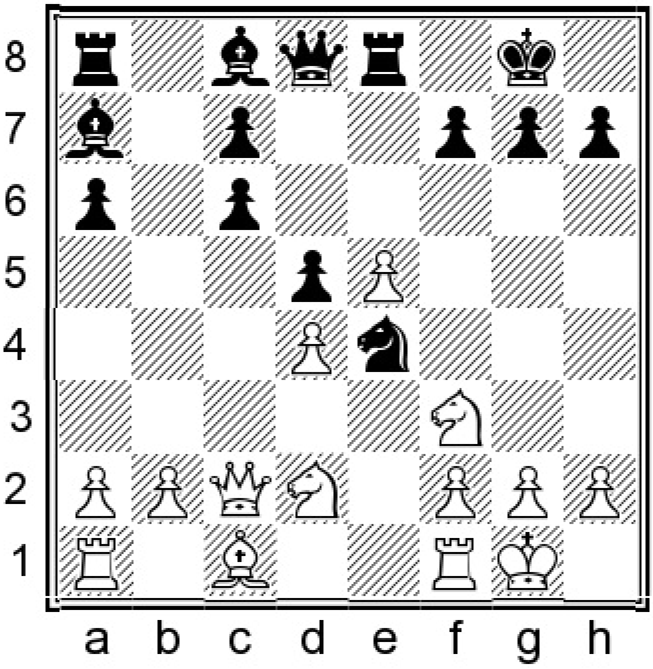
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4.d3 ♗c5 5.c3 O-O 6.O-O ♖e8 7.♘bd2 a6 8.♗a4 d5!?

8...♗a7 - 112/183

9.d4

9.h3 h6 10.♖e1 b5 11.♗c2 dxe4 12.dxe4 ♗e6∞

9...exd4 10.cxd4 ♗a7 11.e5 ♘e4 12.♗xc6 bxc6 13.♕c2?



13.♘b3 ♗g4 14.♗e3 f6 15.♖c1 fxe5 16.dxe5 ♗xe3 17.fxe3∞

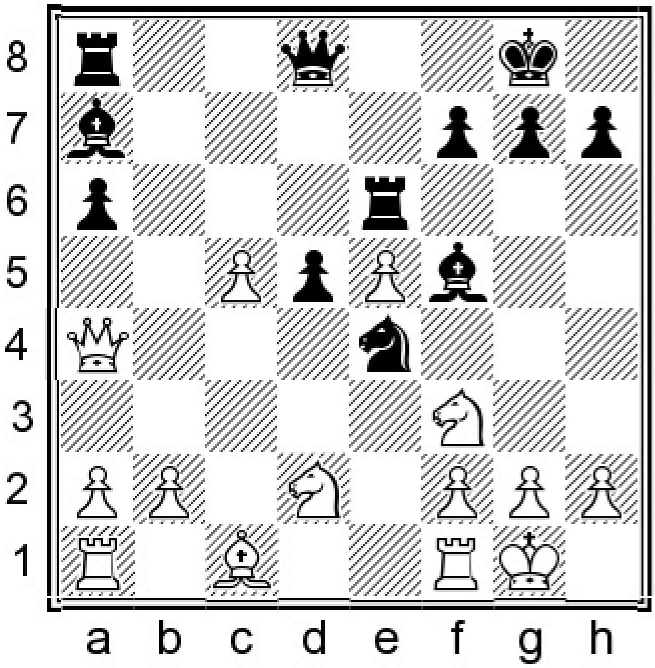
13...♗f5!∓ 14.♕xc6

14.♘xe4 ♗xe4 15.♕d1 (15.♕xc6 ♗xf3 16.gxf3 ♖e6-+) 15...c5 16.dxc5 ♗xc5∓

14...♖e6 15.♕a4 c5

15...♖g6! 16.g3 c5

16.dxc5


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

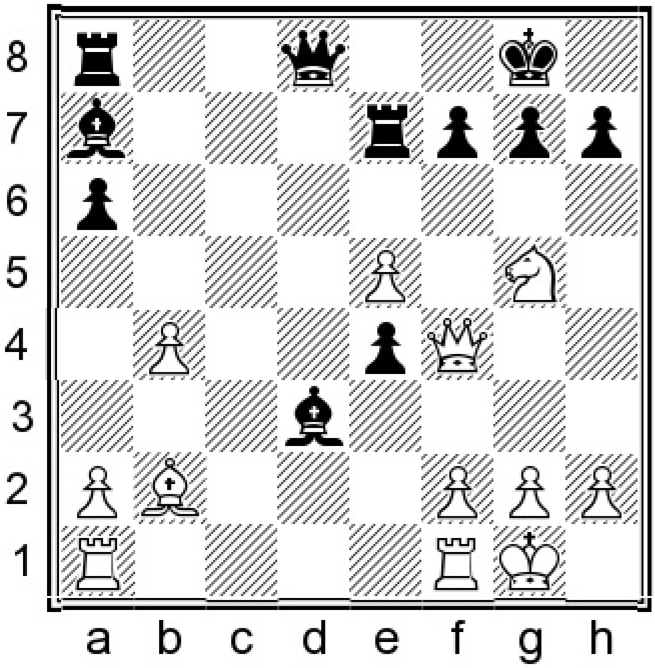
16...♘xc5N

16...♖g6

17.♕f4 ♗d3 18.b4

18.♖e1 ♗b5 19.♘g5 ♖e7 20.♕h4 h6 21.♘gf3 ♘d3 22.♖f1 ♖c8-+

18...♘e4 19.♘xe4 dxe4 20.♘g5 ♖e7 21.♗b2?


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

21.♖d1 ♗d4 22.♕f5 g6 23.♕h3 h5 24.♗f4 ♗xa1 25.♖xa1∓

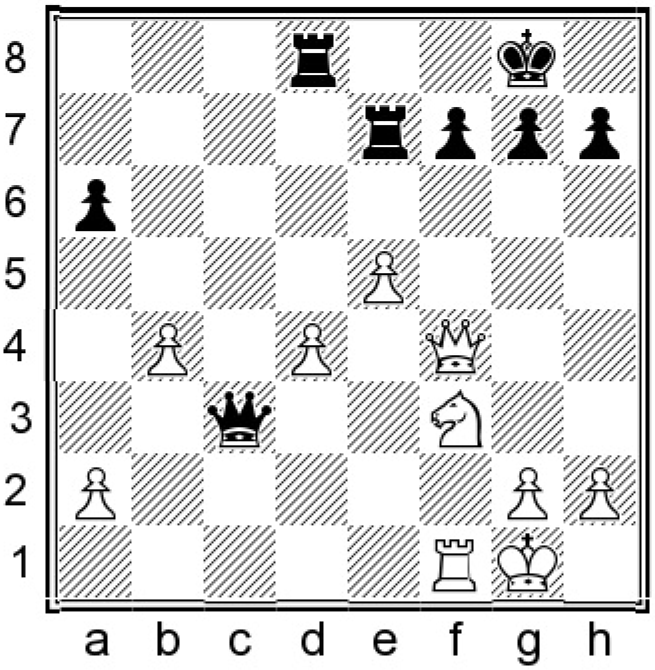
21...e3! 22.fxe3 ♗xf1

22...f6! 23.♘f3 fxe5 24.♘xe5 ♗xf1 25.♖xf1 ♕d5 26.♗d4 ♖d8∓

23.♖xf1 ♕d3 24.♗d4 ♗xd4 25.exd4 ♖d8 26.♘f3

26.♘xf7 ♕xd4+ 27.♕xd4 ♖xd4-+

26...♕c3



26...h6!∓

27.h4?!

27.♘h4! g6 (27...♖xd4 28.♕g5 ♖dd7 (28...♖e6?! 29.♘f5 ♖g6 30.♕c1!±) 29.♘f5 ♕xe5 30.♘xe7+ ♖xe7 31.♕xe5 ♖xe5=) 28.♘f3 ♕xb4 29.h4 ♕c4 (29...♖ed7 30.h5 ♖xd4 31.♘xd4 ♕xd4+ 32.♕xd4 ♖xd4 33.♖f6 ♖a4 34.h6=) 30.h5 ♕xa2 31.h6 ♕e6 32.♘g5 ♕d7 33.♖c1⯹

27...♕xb4 28.h5 h6 29.g4

29.♖c1 ♖ed7∓

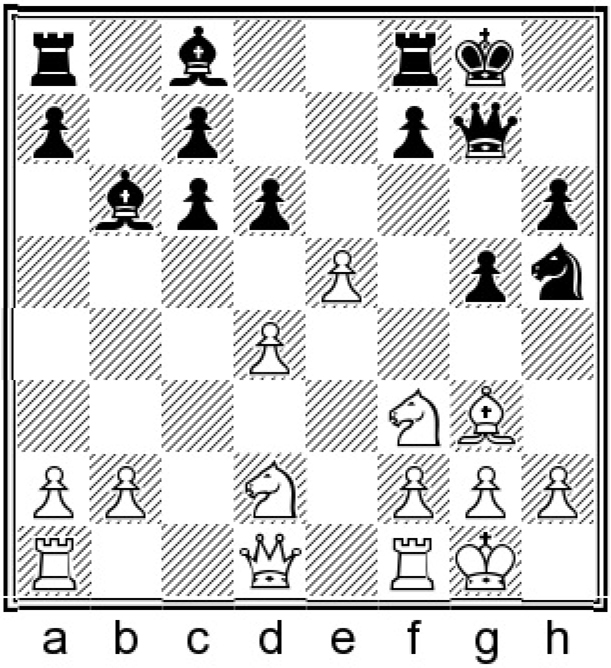
29...♖b7 30.♕e4 ♖b6 31.♕c2 ♖db8 32.♖d1 ♕a3 33.♖d3 ♖b2 34.♖xa3 ♖xc2 0-1

117. * !N C65**
Caruana, Fabiano (2800) - Howell, David (2658)
Riga 150/117, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4.d3 ♗c5 5.c3 O-O 6.O-O d6 7.♗g5 h6 8.♗h4 g5 9.♗g3 ♘h5 10.♘bd2

10.d4 - 112/(181)

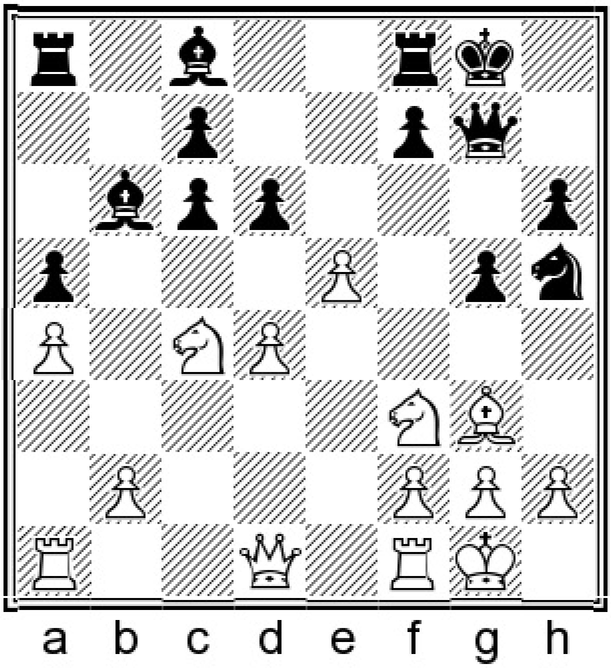
10...♕f6 11.♗xc6 bxc6 12.d4 exd4 13.e5 ♕g7 14.cxd4 ♗b6



15.a4!N

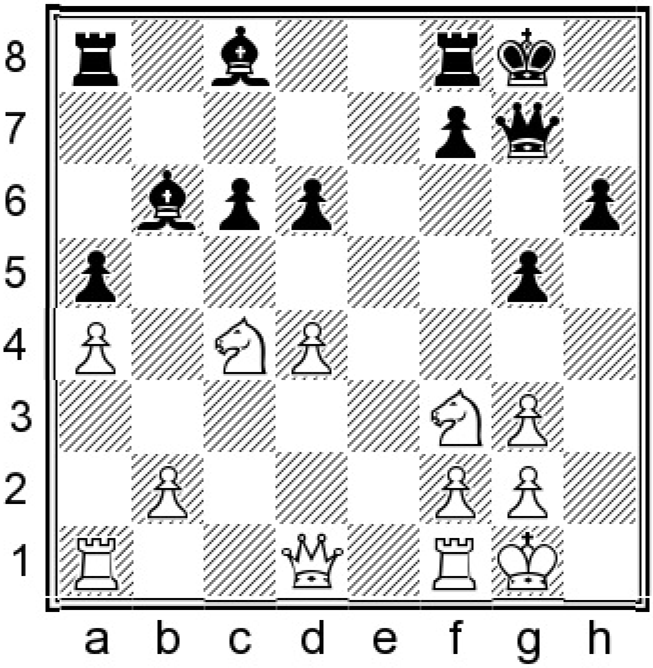
15.♕a4

15...a5 16.♘c4



- 150/(117)

16.exd6N ♘xg3 17.hxg3 cxd6 18.♘c4



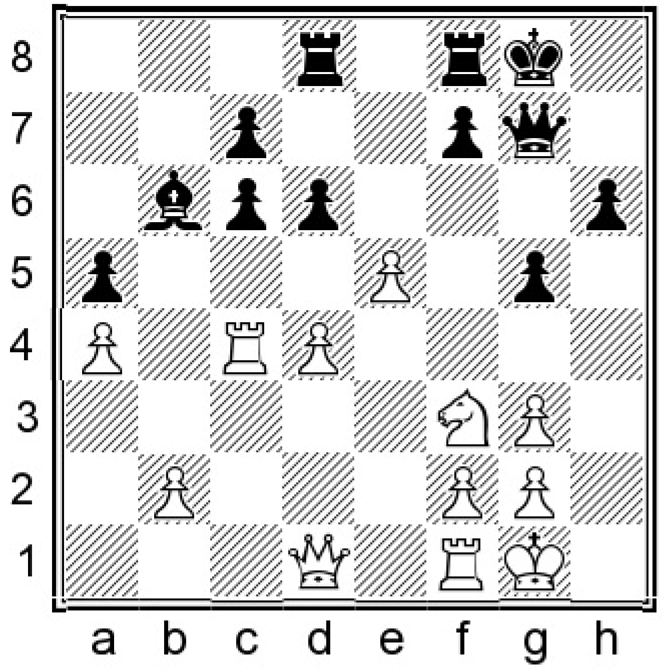
18...♖b8!? - 150/(117) (18...♗c7N 19.♖e1 ♖b8 (19...♗e6) 20.♖c1 ♗e6 21.♕d3 ♖fe8 22.♘e3 c5!? 23.dxc5 dxc5 24.♖xc5 ♖ed8 25.♕e4 ♖b4 26.♕c6 ♗b6 27.♖b5 ♗xe3 28.♖xe3 ♖c4 29.♖c5 ♖xc5 30.♕xc5 g4 31.♕xa5 ♖d5 32.♕a8+ ♔h7 33.♘h4 ♕xb2 34.♖e1 ♕b4=∞ Biedermann,T-Bucek,J corr 150/(117) 2021) 19.♘xd6 ♖d8 20.♘xc8 ♖bxc8 21.♕c2 ♗xd4 22.♘xd4 ♕xd4 23.♖fd1 ♕f6= Kubicki,T-Bucek,J corr 150/(117) 2020

16...♗e6N

16...♘xg3 - 150/(117) 17.hxg3 ♗e6 18.♘xb6 cxb6 19.♖c1 g4 20.♘d2 dxe5 1/2 (20) Garau, B-Schaub,J corr 150/(117) 2020

16...f5? 17.exf6! ♕xf6 18.♗xd6 cxd6 19.♘xb6±

17.♖c1 ♘xg3 18.hxg3 ♗xc4 19.♖xc4 ♖ad8



19...c5! 20.♖e1 ♖fe8∞

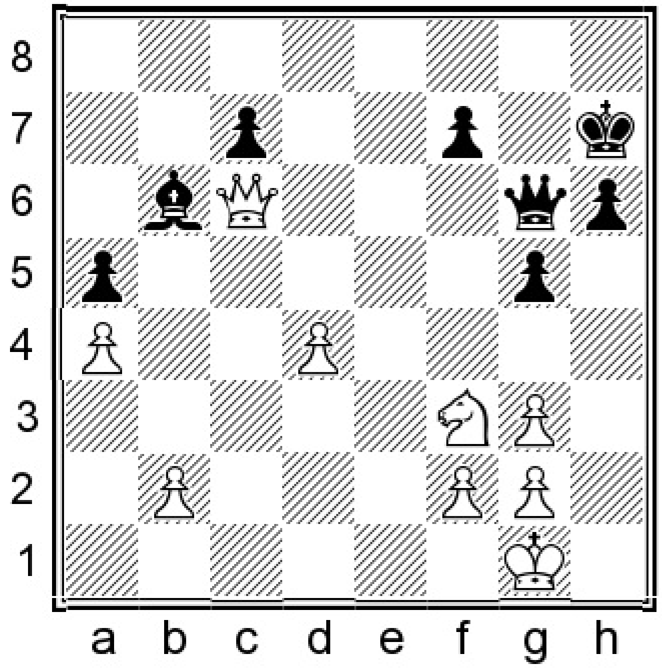
20.♖e1! ♖fe8

20...c5 21.d5±

21.exd6 ♖xe1+ 22.♕xe1 ♖xd6 23.♖xc6! ♖xc6

23...♕f6 24.♖xd6 ♕xd6 25.b3±

24.♕e8+ ♔h7 25.♕xc6 ♕g6



26.♕d7!

26.♕xg6+?! ♔xg6 27.g4 ♔f6 28.♔f1 ♔e6 29.♔e2 f5 30.gxf5+ ♔xf5 31.♔d3 h5!⇄

26...♔g7 27.♘e5 ♕e6 28.♕xe6 fxe6 29.♘c4 ♔f6

29...♗xd4 30.♘xa5 ♗xb2 31.♘c6+-

30.♘xb6 cxb6 31.g4 e5 32.dxe5+ ♔xe5 33.g3 ♔d4 34.f4 1-0

118. C67
Shevchenko, Kirill (2647) - Parligras, Mircea Emilian (2576)
Terme Catez 150/118, 2021

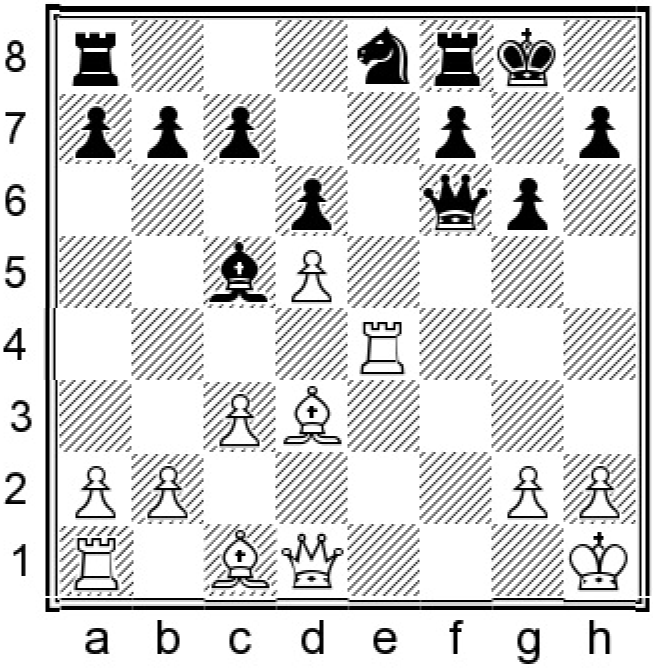
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4.O-O ♘xe4 5.♖e1 ♘d6 6.♘xe5 ♘xe5 7.♖xe5+ ♗e7 8.♗f1 O-O 9.d4 ♘e8 10.d5 ♗c5 11.♖e1 d6 12.♘c3 ♗f5 13.♗d3 ♕f6

13...♕h4 - 132/129

14.♘e4!? ♗xe4 15.♖xe4 ♕xf2+

15...♗xf2+ 16.♔h1 ♗b6 17.a4 a5 18.c3⩱

16.♔h1 ♕f6 17.c3 g6



18.a4N

18.♗h6 ♘g7 19.♕e2 ♕d8 20.b4 ♗b6 21.a4 a5 22.♗b5 ♖c8 23.♖e1 c6 24.♗c4 c5 25.bxc5 ♗xc5=

18...a6 19.♗h6 ♘g7 20.♕e2 ♕d8

20...♕f2 21.b4 ♕xe2 22.♖xe2 ♗a7 23.♖e7

21.♖f1 ♖e8

21...f5 22.♖e7 ♖f7 23.♖e1 ♕f8 24.b4 ♗a7 25.♖e6±

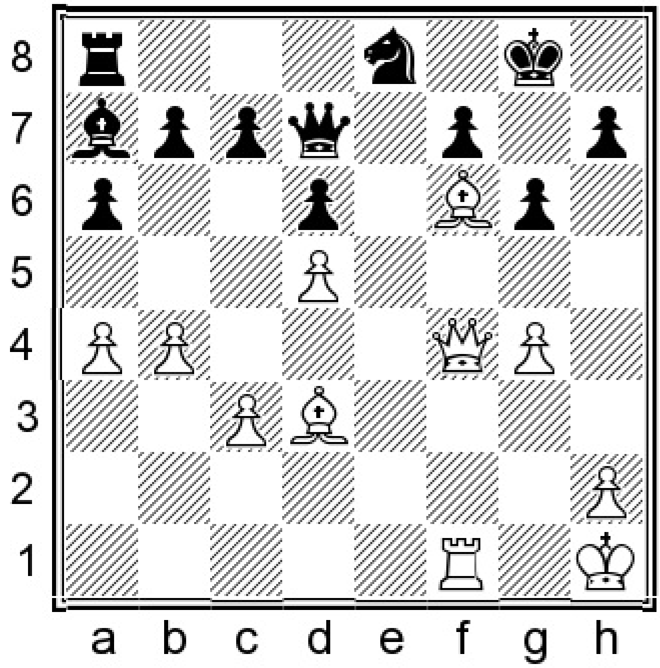
22.♕f3 ♕d7?!

22...f5 23.♖xe8+ ♕xe8 24.b4 ♗a7 25.g4=∞

23.♖h4 ♖e5 24.b4 ♗a7 25.♗f4 ♖h5 26.♖xh5 ♘xh5 27.♗h6 ♕e7 28.g4 ♘g7 29.♗g5! ♕d7 30.♗h6 ♕e7 31.♗g5 ♕d7 32.♕f6 ♘e8?

32...♖f8 33.♗h6 ♘e8 34.♕f3 ♘g7 35.h4↑

33.♕f4 ♘g7 34.♗f6 ♘e8?



34...♕e8 35.♖f3 ♕f8 36.h4±

35.♗f5! ♕xa4

35...gxf5 36.♕g5+ ♔f8 37.♕h6+ ♔g8 38.♖xf5 ♗e3 39.♕xe3 ♘xf6 40.♕g5+ ♔f8 41.♕xf6+-

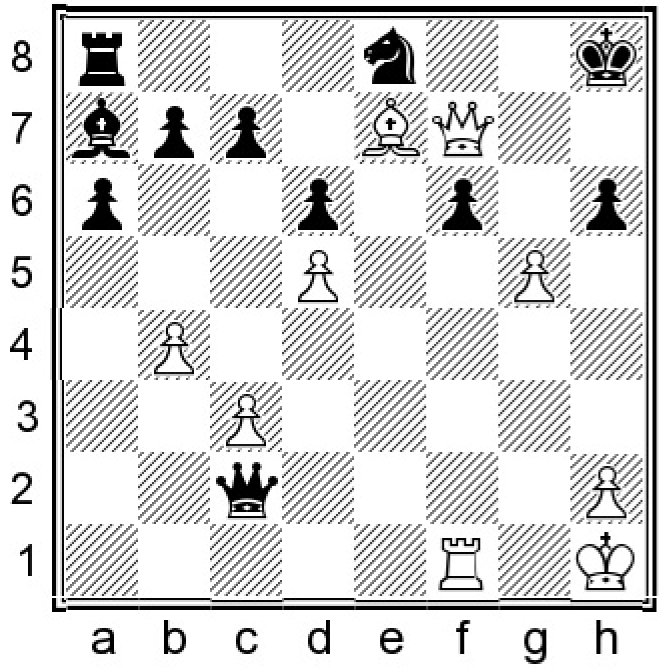
36.♗e7 gxf5

36...♘g7 37.♗d7!+-

37.♕xf5 f6 38.♕e6+ ♔h8 39.♕f7 h6

39...♘g7 40.♗f8+-

40.g5!+- ♕c2



40...hxg5 41.♖xf6 ♕d1+ 42.♖f1+-

41.♖xf6??

41.♗xf6+! ♘xf6 42.♕xf6+ ♔g8 43.gxh6 ♕e4+ (43...♕h7 44.♖f3+-) 44.♖f3 ♕e1+ 45.♔g2 ♕e2+ (45...♕g1+ 46.♔h3 ♔h7 47.♖g3+-) 46.♔h3 ♕e5 47.♖g3+ ♔h7 48.♕f7+ ♔h8 49.h7+-

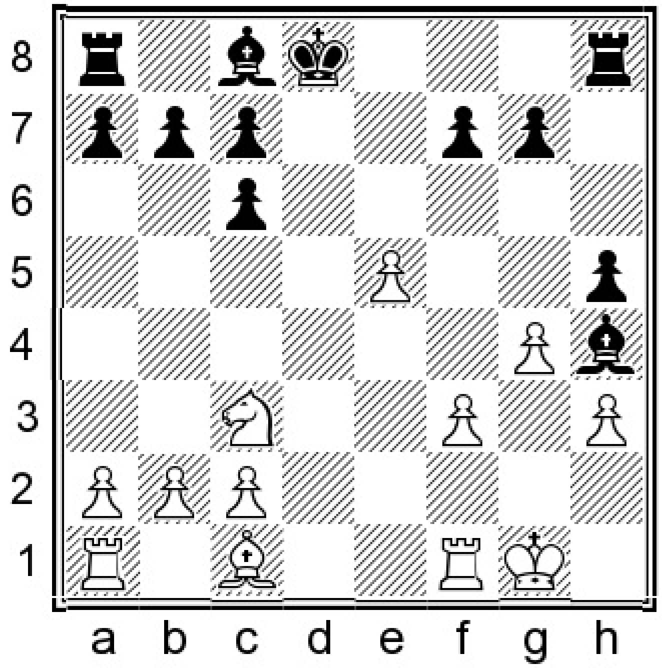
41...♕e4+ 42.♖f3 hxg5 43.♕h5+ ♔g8 1/2-1/2

119. ** C67
Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2763) - Tabatabaei, Mohammad Amin (2639)
Riga 150/119, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4.O-O ♘xe4 5.d4 ♘d6 6.♗xc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 ♘f5 8.♕xd8+ ♔xd8 9.h3 ♗e7 10.♘c3 ♘h4 11.♘xh4 ♗xh4 12.f4

12.♗e3 - 147/111

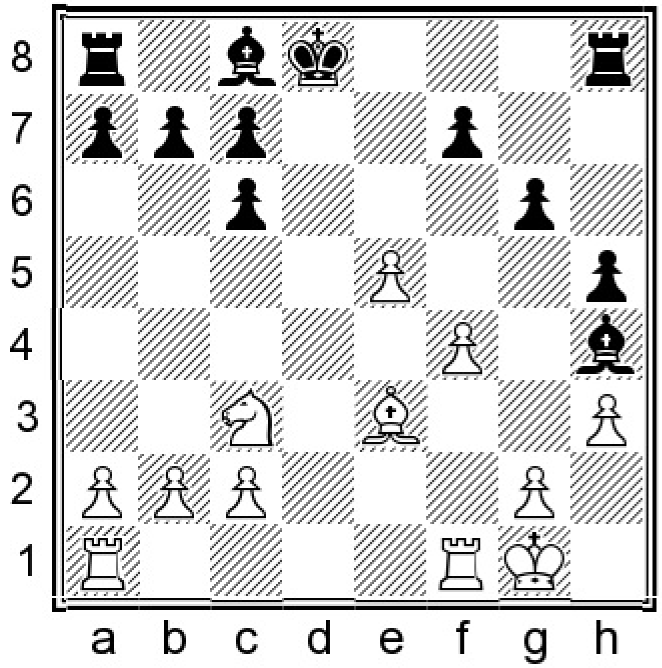
12.g4 h5 13.f3



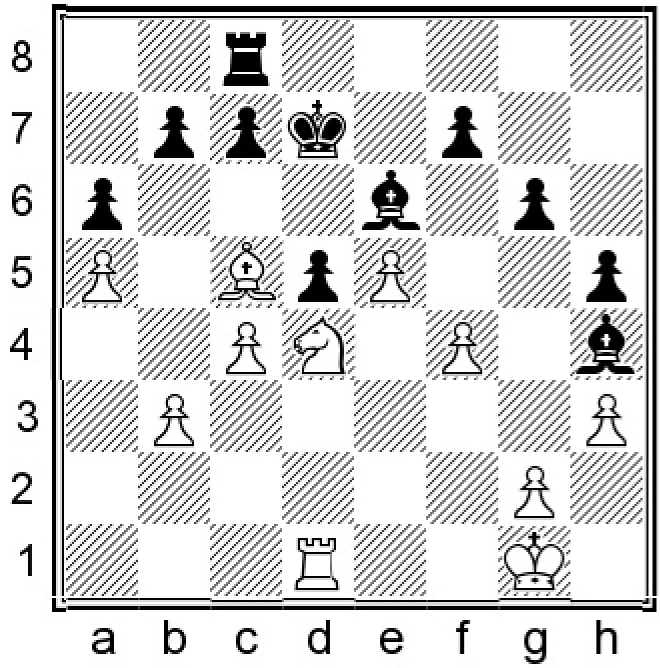
13...f6N (13...♔e7) 14.exf6 gxf6 15.♗e3 ♔e7 16.♗f2 hxg4 17.hxg4 ♗e6 18.♖ae1 ♔f7= Sevian,S (2654)-Shankland,S (2714) USA (ch) 150/(119) 2021

12...♗f5

12...g6 13.♗e3 h5



14.♘e2N (14.♖ad1+) 14...♔e8 15.♖ad1 ♗d7 16.a4 a6 17.a5 ♖d8 18.♗c5 ♗e6 19.b3 ♖d5 20.♖xd5 cxd5 21.♘d4 ♔d7 22.♖d1 ♖c8 23.c4


8
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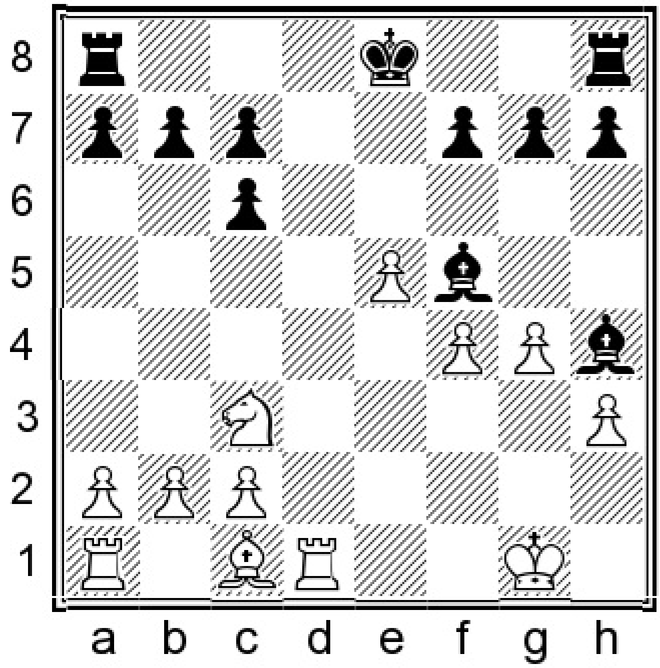
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

23...dxc4! 24.bxc4 (24.♘f3+? ♔c6) 24...♖e8 25.♘f3+ ♔c6 26.♗b4 ♗d8 27.♘d4+ ♔d7 28.♘f5+ 1/2 (28) Degtyaryov, S-Fremmegaard,J corr 150/(119) 2020

13.♖d1+ ♔e8 14.g4


8
7
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4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

14...♗c8N

14...♗xc2?? 15.♖d2+-; 14...♗d7

15.♔g2 h5 16.f5

16.♔f3 ♗e7 17.f5 hxg4+ 18.hxg4 ♖h3+ 19.♔g2 ♖h4 20.♔g3 g6 21.f6 (21.♖f1 gxf5 22.gxf5 ♖h5 23.♔g4 ♖h4+ 24.♔g3 ♖h5=) 21...♖xg4+ 22.♔f3 ♗f8 23.♖h1 ♗f5 24.♖h8 ♔d7 25.♗h6 ♗xh6 26.♖xa8

♖f4+ 27.♔g3 ♖g4+=

16...♗e7?

16...g6 17.♗e3 (17.♖f1 b6! 18.♘e4 hxg4 19.hxg4 gxf5 20.gxf5 c5∓) 17...gxf5 18.g5 ♖g8 19.♔f3 ♗e6 20.♖g1 (20.♖d2 ♗xg5 21.♖g1 f6 22.♖dg2 ♔e7 23.♗xg5 fxg5 24.♖xg5 ♖ad8 25.♖xg8 ♗xg8 26.♖g7+ ♗f7∞) 20...♖d8 21.b3 b6 22.♖ad1 ♖xd1 23.♘xd1∞

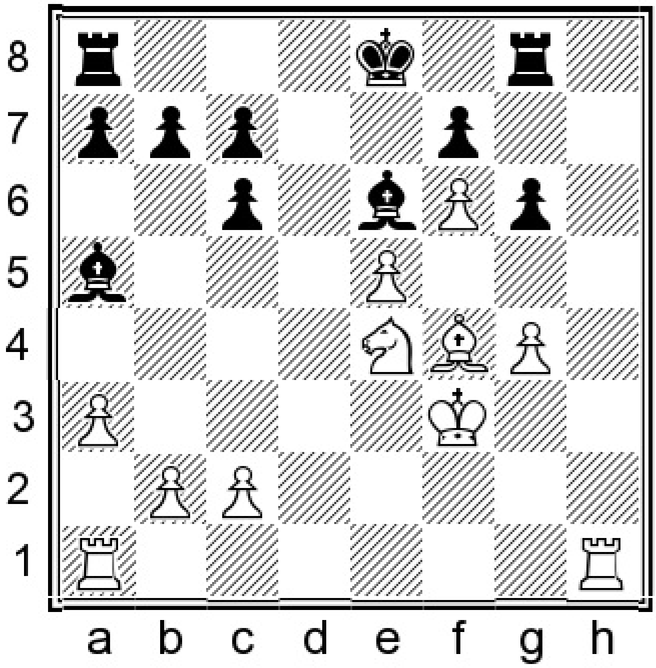
17.♔g3 hxg4 18.hxg4 ♗h4+

18...g6 19.f6 ♗f8 20.♘e4 ♗e6 21.♘g5 ♗d5 22.♗f4+-

19.♔f3 ♗e7 20.♗f4 g6

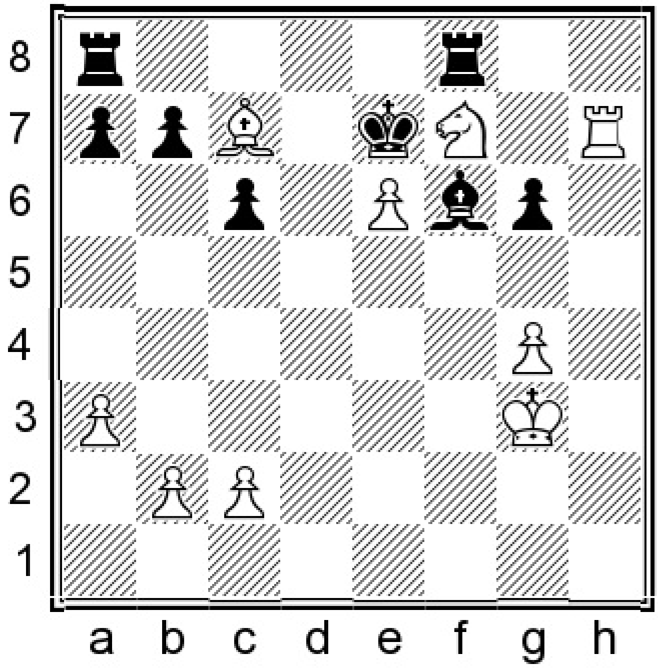
20...♖h3+ 21.♔g2 ♖h7 22.♖h1 ♖xh1 23.♖xh1+-; 20...b6 21.♖h1 ♖g8 22.♖h7 ♗b7 23.♖e1 c5+ 24.♔g3+-

21.♖h1 ♖g8 22.f6 ♗b4 23.♘e4 ♗e6 24.a3 ♗a5



25.♘g5! ♗d5+ 26.♔g3 ♗xh1 27.♖xh1 ♖f8 28.♖h7 ♗b6 29.c3

29.e6 ♗d4 30.♘xf7 ♗xf6 31.♗xc7 ♔e7



(31...♖xf7 32.♖xf7+-) 32.♘d8+! (32.♘g5+ ♔e8 33.♘e4+-) 32...♔e8 33.♘xb7+-

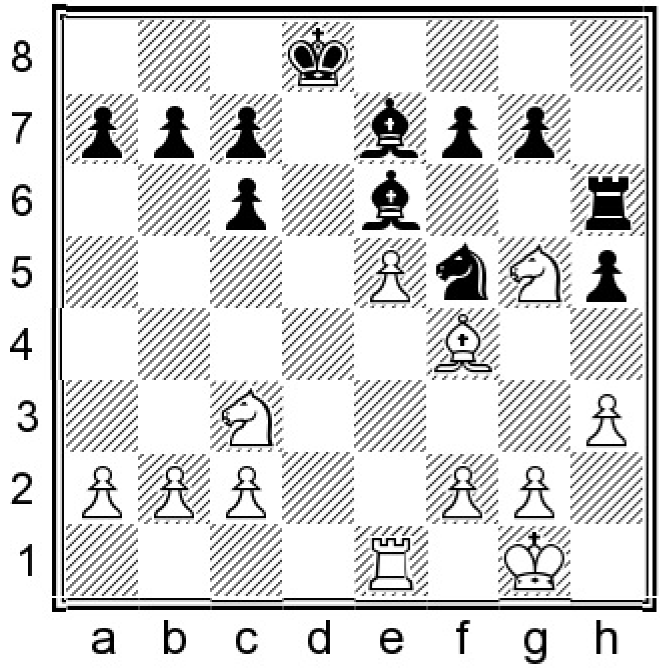
29...♖d8 30.e6 ♖d3+ 31.♔g2 ♗e3 32.e7 ♖g8 33.♘xf7!

33.♘xf7 ♗xf4 34.♘d6+ ♖xd6 35.f7++-

1-0

120. C67
Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2792) - Karjakin, Sergey (2758)
Stavanger 150/120, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4.O-O ♘xe4 5.d4 ♘d6 6.♗xc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 ♘f5 8.♕xd8+ ♔xd8 9.♘c3 ♔e8 10.h3 h5 11.♗f4 ♗e7 12.♖ad1 ♗e6 13.♘g5 ♖h6 14.♖fe1 ♖d8 15.♖xd8+ ♔xd8



16.♘ce4N

16.g4 - 149/114

16.♘xe6+ - 149/(114)

16...c5

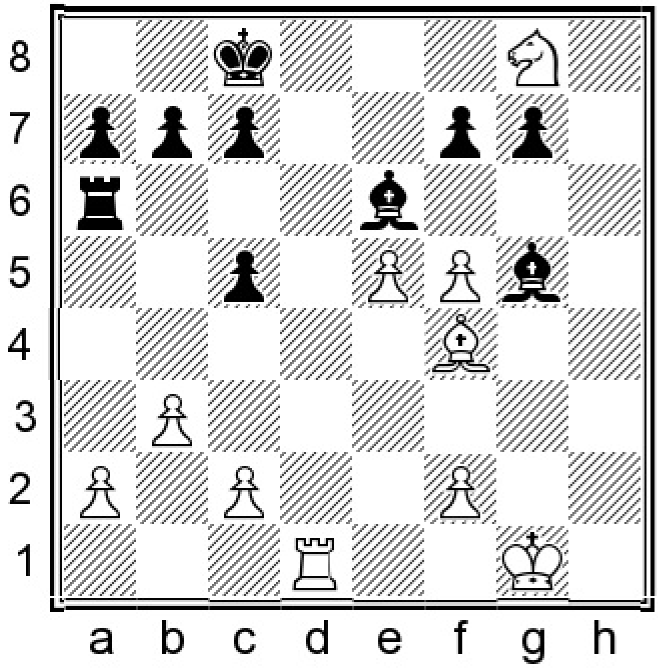
16...♗d5 17.b3 b5 18.e6!? ♗xe6 19.♘f3 ♖h8 20.♘e5 ♗d6 21.♘g5↑

17.♘f6

17.g4 hxg4 18.hxg4 ♘d4 19.c3 ♘c6 20.♖d1+ ♔c8 21.♘xe6 ♖xe6 22.♖d5 ♘b8!∞

17...♗xa2?

17...♖h8 18.♘xe6+ fxe6 19.♖d1+ ♔c8 20.♘e4±; 17...gxf6 18.♘xe6+ fxe6 19.♗xh6 ♘xh6 20.exf6 ♗xf6 21.♖xe6 ♘g8 22.b3±; 17...♗c4 18.♖d1+ (18.♘ge4 gxf6 19.♗xh6 ♘xh6 20.♘xf6 ♗xf6 21.exf6 ♘f5 22.♖e5 ♗e6 23.♖xc5 ♔d7∞) 18...♔c8 19.♘g8 ♖a6! 20.b3 ♗e6 21.g4 hxg4 22.hxg4 ♗xg5 23.gxf5



23...♗d8! 24.fxe6 ♖xe6 25.♔g2 ♖e8 26.♘h6 gxh6 27.♖h1 f6 28.exf6 ♗xf6 29.♖xh6 ♗d4=

18.b3 ♔c8 19.♘xf7 ♖g6

19...♖xf6 20.exf6 ♗xf6 21.g4 hxg4 22.hxg4 ♘d4 23.g5 ♘f3+ 24.♔f1+-

20.♘h8 ♖xf6 21.exf6 ♗xf6 22.♗e5 ♗xe5

22...c4 23.b4 c3 24.♗xf6 gxf6 25.♘g6+-

23.♖xe5 ♘d4 24.♖xc5 b6 25.♖c4 c5 26.♖a4 ♗b1 27.c3 ♘c6 28.♘f7 ♗c2 29.♖a3 a5

29...♔c7 30.b4 a5 31.bxa5 bxa5 32.♔f1+-

30.♘d6+ ♔c7 31.♘c4 ♘a7 32.♘e3 ♗h7

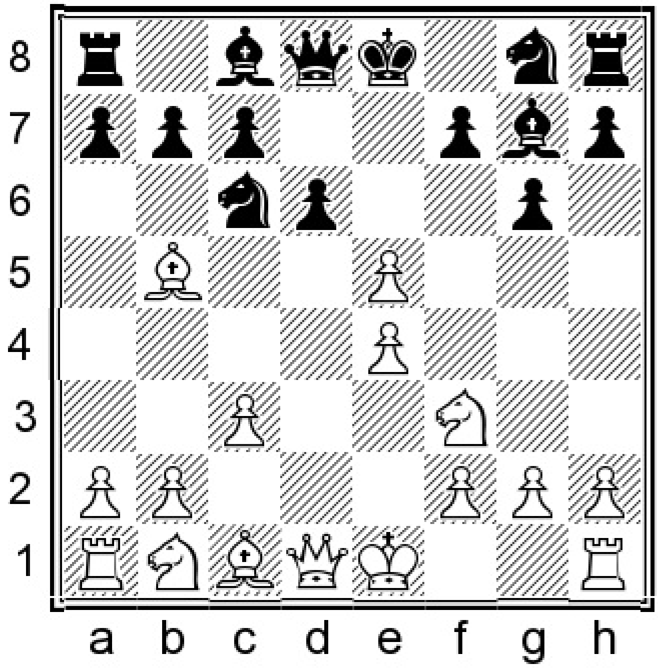
32...♗d3 33.♖a1+-

33.b4 ♘b5 34.♖a1 cxb4 35.cxb4 axb4 36.♘d5+ ♔d6 37.♘xb4 1-0

121. * C70
Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2763) - Demchenko, Anton (2651)
Riga 150/121, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 g6 4.c3 ♗g7 5.d4 exd4

5...d6 6.dxe5



(6.d5 a6 7.♗a4 (7.♕a4!?) 7...b5∞) 6...dxe5N (6...♗d7) 7.♕xd8+ ♔xd8 8.♗xc6 bxc6 9.♗e3 f6 10.♘bd2 ♗a6? (10...a5 11.O-O-O↑) 11.♘b3 ♗f8 12.O-O-O+ ♔c8 13.♗c5+- Azarov,S (2604)-Turzo,A (2302) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(121) 2021

6.cxd4 a6 7.♗a4

7.♗xc6 dxc6 8.♘c3 ♗g4 (8...♘f6 9.O-O h6 10.h3 O-O 11.♖e1 b6 12.♗f4 ♗b7 13.♕d2 ♔h7 14.♖ad1 ♕e7 15.♗e5±; 8...♘e7 9.h3 O-O 10.O-O - 118/95) 9.♗e3 ♘e7 10.h3 ♗xf3 11.♕xf3 f5 12.e5 ♕d7 13.O-O-O O-O-O 14.♗g5 h6 15.♗xe7 ♕xe7 16.♕e3 ♔b8 17.f4 g5 18.g3 gxf4 19.gxf4±

7...b5 8.♗c2

8.♗b3 ♘ge7 (8...♘a5 9.♗c2 ♘f6 10.O-O O-O 11.e5 ♘d5 12.♗g5 f6 13.♗h4 d6 14.a4 ♗b7 15.♗e4 ♕d7 16.axb5 axb5 17.exf6 ♗xf6 18.♗xf6 ♖xf6 19.♖e1 ♘c4 20.♘a3 ♘cb6∞; 8...d6 9.h3 ♘f6 (9...♘ge7 10.O-O O-O 11.♖e1 ♘a5 12.♗c2 c5 13.♘c3 cxd4 14.♘xd4 ♗b7 15.♗g5 h6 16.♗h4 ♖e8∞) 10.O-O O-O 11.♖e1 ♗b7 12.♘bd2 ♘b4 13.♘f1 c5 14.a3 ♘c6 15.d5 ♘d4 16.♘xd4 cxd4 17.♕xd4 ♘xd5 18.♕d3 ♘b6=) 9.d5 - 146/15

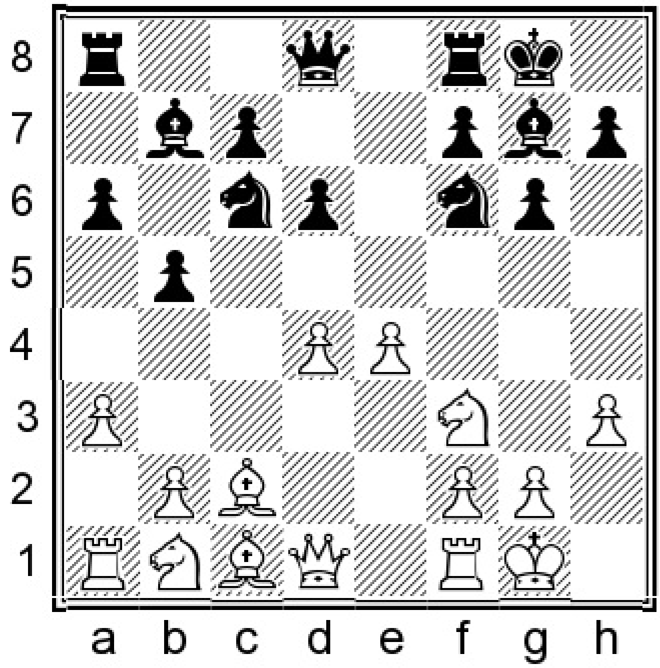
8...d6 9.h3

9.d5!? ♘a5 10.O-O (10.♘bd2 c6 11.O-O ♘e7 12.dxc6 O-O 13.a4 ♘exc6 14.axb5 axb5 15.♘b3 ♗g4 16.♘xa5 ♖xa5 17.♖xa5 ♕xa5=) 10...♘e7 (10...♘c4 11.♘c3 ♘e7 12.♗d3 ♘b6 13.a4 b4 14.♘e2 a5 15.♘ed4↑ - 139/(130)) 11.♗d2 ♗xb2 12.♗xa5 ♗xa1 13.♘c3 ♗b2 14.e5 O-O 15.♘e4 ♗b7 16.♗b3∞ - 139/130

9...♘f6 10.O-O ♗b7 11.a3

11.♖e1

11...O-O



12.♖e1N

12.♗g5

12...♖e8 13.♗g5

13.♗f4 ♘e7 14.♘c3 c5 15.d5±

13...h6 14.♗h4 ♘e7

14...g5 15.♗g3 ♘e7 16.♘bd2 ♘h5 17.♗h2 ♘g6=

15.♘c3 ♘h5

15...g5 16.♗g3 ♘h5 17.♗h2 ♘g6=

16.e5 ♕d7

16...g5? 17.♘xg5 hxg5 18.♗xg5+-; 16...♘f4 17.♗e4 ♗xe4 18.♘xe4±

17.d5 ♘f4

17...dxe5 18.♘xe5 ♕d6 19.♘xf7! ♔xf7 20.♖e6+-

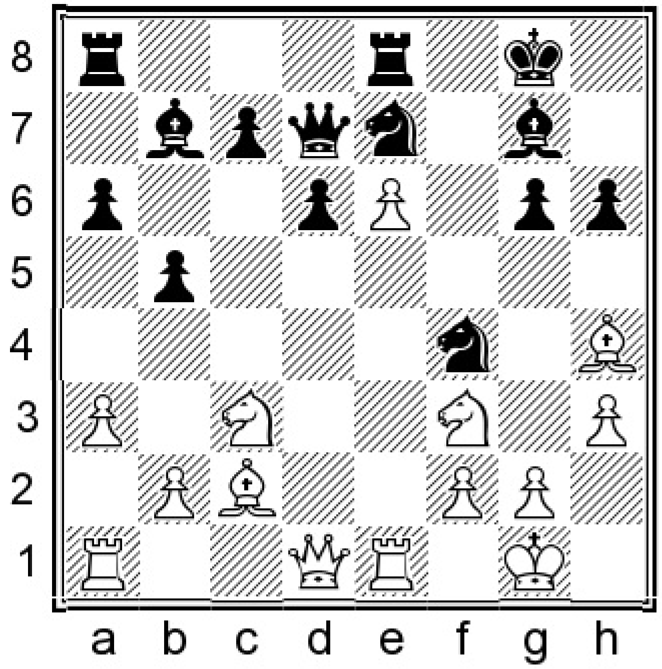
18.e6!?

18.♗b3 ♘f5 19.♗f6 ♗xf6 20.exf6 ♖xe1+ 21.♕xe1 ♖e8 22.♕d2 g5=

18...fxe6

18...♕c8? 19.♕d2 ♘exd5 20.exf7+ ♔xf7 21.♘xd5 ♘xd5 22.♖xe8 ♕xe8 23.♗b3 c6 24.♖e1+-

19.dxe6



19...♕c6?

19...♘xe6! 20.♘e5 ♗xe5 21.♖xe5 c5 22.♖e3 ♘f4=; 19...♕d8 20.♖c1 c5 21.♕d2±

20.♖e4! ♘ed5

20...g5 21.♖xf4 gxf4 22.♕d3+-

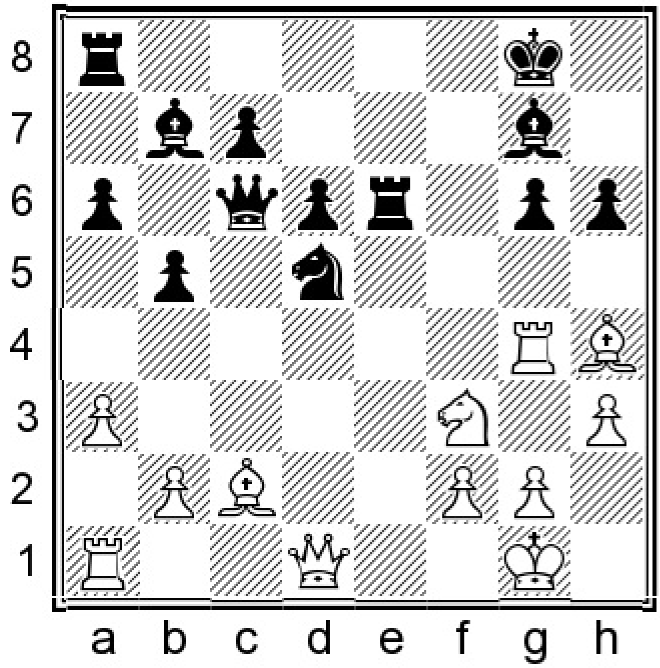
21.♘xd5 ♘xd5

21...♕xd5 22.♖xf4 g5 23.♖f7 ♕xd1+ 24.♖xd1 ♗xf3 (24...gxh4 25.♘d4+-) 25.gxf3 gxh4 26.♗b3+-; 21...♘xh3+ 22.gxh3 ♕xd5 23.♕e2+-

22.♖g4

22.♖c1! g5 (22...♗xb2 23.♖g4+-) 23.♗xg5 hxg5 24.♘xg5 ♘f6 25.♗b3+-

22...♖xe6



22...g5 23.♗xg5 hxg5 (23...♖xe6 24.♘d4 ♗xd4 25.♗f6+ ♔f7 26.♗xd4 ♖f8 27.♖c1+-) 24.♘d4 ♕c5 25.♖xg5 ♘f6 26.♘f5+-

23.♗b3!

23.♗xg6 ♖xg6 24.♖xg6 ♕e8 25.♕c2 ♘f4 26.♖g4+-

23...♗xb2 24.♖b1

24.♖a2 ♕c1 25.♖xb2 ♕xd1+ 26.♗xd1+-

24...♗xa3

24...♗c3 25.♖c1 ♖ae8 26.♕d3 ♔h7 27.♘d4 ♖e1+ 28.♔h2 ♘f4 29.♖xc3 ♘xd3 30.♘xc6+-

25.♘d4 ♕e8 26.♘xe6 ♕xe6 27.♕d2 h5

27...♔h7 28.♖e1+-

28.♖e1

28.♖e1 ♕f7 29.♖xg6+ ♕xg6 30.♗xd5+

1-0

C75-C99

122. * C77
Sukandar, Irine Kharisma (2406) - Lei, Tingjie (2505)
Riga 150/122, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗c5 6.♘c3 b5

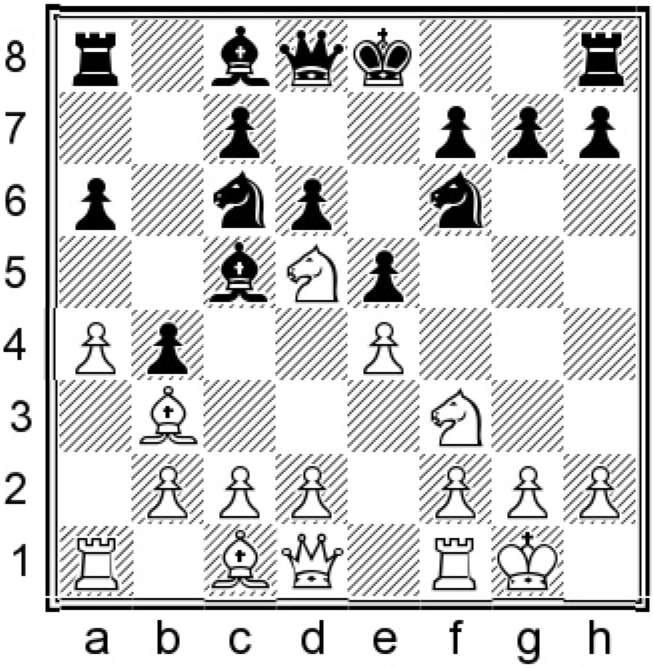
6...d6 - 139/ (131)

7.♗b3 d6 8.a4?!

8.♘d5

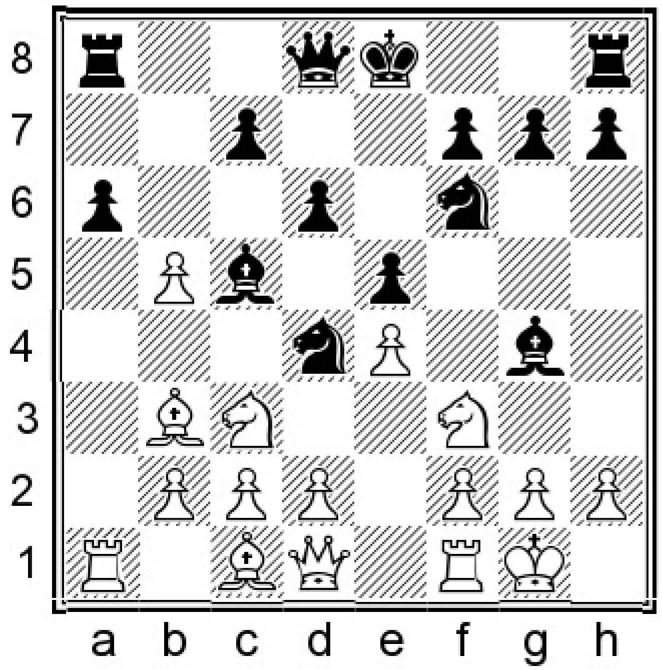
8...♗g4!

8...b4 9.♘d5



9...♖b8N (9...♘xe4 10.d3 ♘f6 (10...♘xf2 11.♖xf2 ♗xf2+ 12.♔xf2 ♗e6 13.♗d2) 11.♗g5↑) 10.d3 h6 11.a5 O-O 12.h3 ♘xd5 13.♗xd5 ♘e7 14.♗b3 ♘g6 15.c3 bxc3 16.bxc3∞ Giri,A (2780)-Dubov,D (2710) chess24.com (Int.-m/1-blitz) 150/(122) 2021

9.axb5 ♘d4


8
7
6
5
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3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

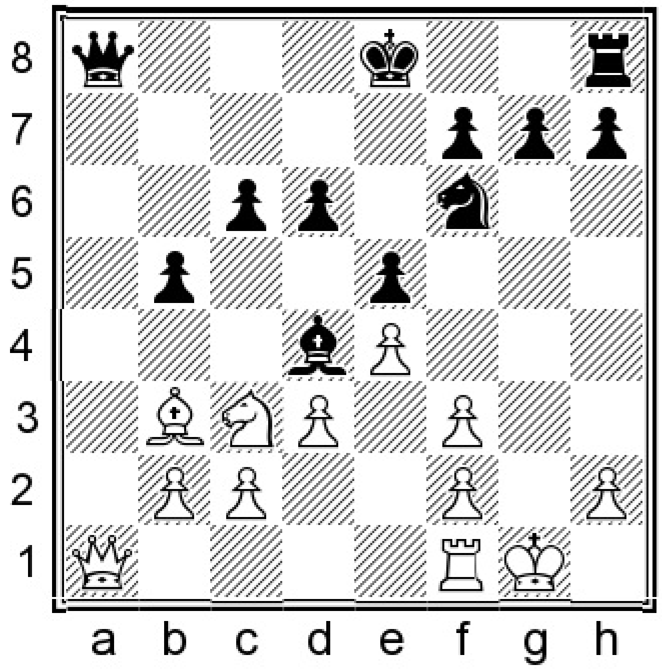
10.d3?N

10.♗c4 axb5 11.♖xa8 ♕xa8 12.♘xb5 ♕xe4 13.♘bxd4 ♗xd4 14.♗b5+ ♔e7∞

10...axb5 11.♖xa8 ♕xa8 12.♗e3

12.♘d5 ♘xd5 13.♗xd5 ♕d8 14.c3 ♘xf3+ 15.gxf3 ♗h3 16.♖e1 ♕f6-+

12...♗xf3 13.gxf3 c6 14.♗xd4 ♗xd4 15.♕a1?

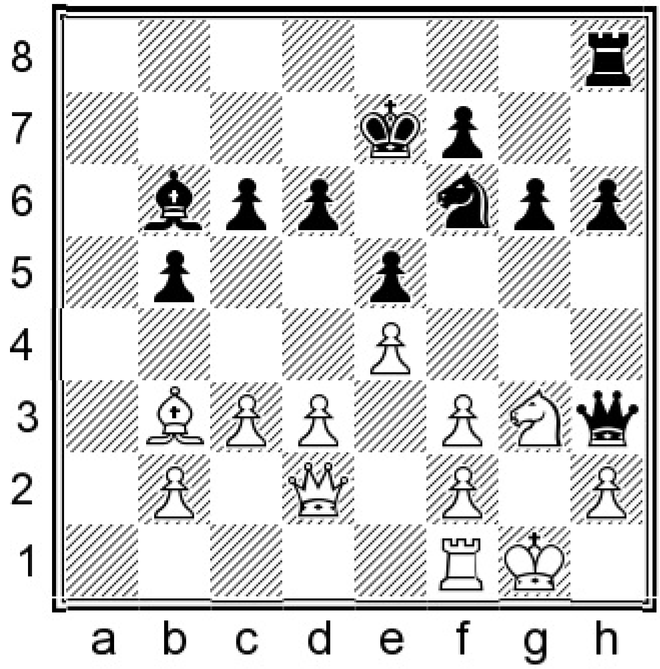

8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

15.♘e2 ♗xb2 16.c3 O-O 17.♕c2 (17.♕d2 ♕a3) 17...♗a3 18.♖a1 c5 19.♘g3 g6 20.♕d2 (20.h4 b4 21.♔g2 ♕d8∓) 20...b4 21.♕h6 (21.♘f5 ♕d8) 21...♕d8 22.h4 ♔h8 Δ Ng8∓

15...♕c8! 16.♘e2 ♗b6 17.♘g3 g6! 18.♕c1

18.♕a3 ♔e7 19.♔g2 ♘h5! 20.♘e2 ♕d7∓

18...♕h3 19.♕g5 ♔e7 20.c3 h6 21.♕d2

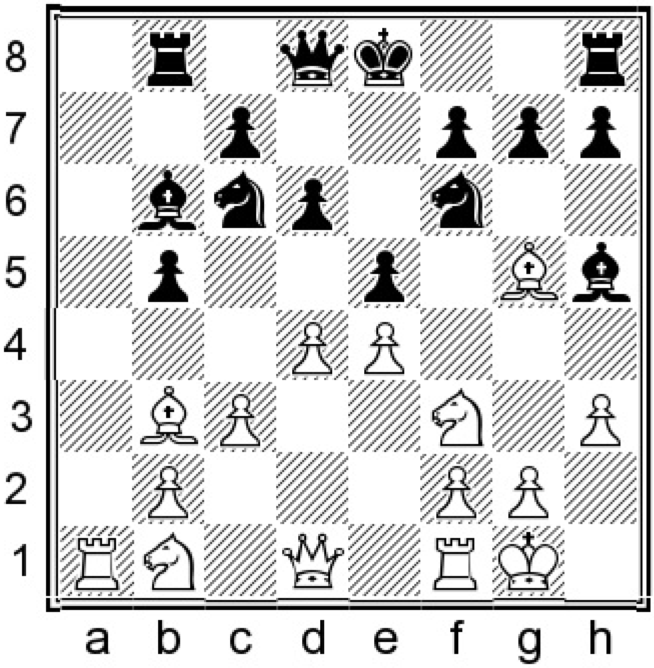


21...♘h5! 22.♘e2 g5 23.♕d1 ♖g8! 0-1

123. * C78
Shevchenko, Kirill (2632) - Vitiugov, Nikita (2727)
Riga 150/123, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗c5 6.c3 b5 7.♗b3 d6 8.d4 ♗b6 9.a4 ♗g4!? 10.h3 ♗h5 11.g4

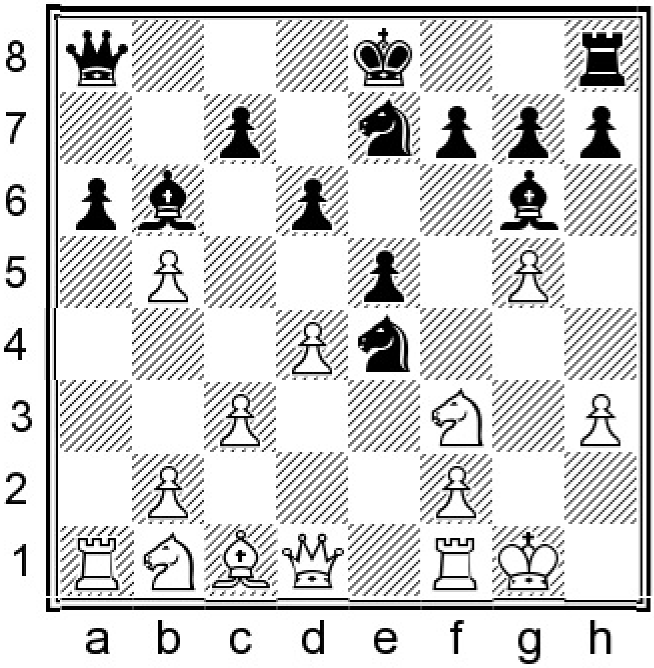
11.♗g5 ♖b8 12.axb5 (12.d5 - 141/117) 12...axb5



13.♖e1?!N (13.d5 ♘a7 14.♕e2 h6 15.♗e3 ♗xe3 16.♕xe3 ♘c8 17.♘e1±) 13...h6 14.♗d5 hxg5 15.♗xc6+ ♔f8∓ Sprenger,J (2480)-Brkic, A (2621) Hrvatska 150/(123) 2021

11...♗g6 12.g5 ♘xe4 13.♗d5 ♘e7 14.♗xa8 ♕xa8 15.♘h4?N

15.axb5



15...♕c8! (15...♗h5 16.♖xa6 ♕c8 17.♔h2 O-O 18.♕d3±) 16.bxa6 (16.♔h2 axb5↑) 16...♕xh3 17.a7 (17.♘h2 ♗h5 18.♕a4+ c6 19.a7 ♗xa7 20.♕xa7 ♗f3 21.♘xf3 ♕g4+ 22.♔h2 ♕h5+=) 17...♕g4+ 18.♔h2 (18.♔h1? ♗xa7 19.♖xa7 O-O∓ 20.♔h2□ (20.♗e3? ♕h3+ 21.♘h2 ♗h5-+; 20.♘bd2? ♘d5-+) 20...♗f5 21.c4 f6 22.♖a3 fxg5 23.♘fd2 ♕h4+ 24.♔g2 ♘g6) 18...♕h5+ 19.♔g1 ♕g4+ 20.♔h2=

15...♘f5?!

15...b4! 16.a5 ♗a7 17.♗e3 (17.♕a4+?! ♔d8 18.♕xb4 ♘f5 19.♘xf5 ♗xf5∓) 17...O-O 18.♕f3 exd4 19.cxd4 d5∓

16.♘xf5 ♗xf5 17.♕f3?!

17.♖e1! O-O (17...♕c8 18.axb5 axb5 19.♕h5 d5 (19...O-O!?) 20.f3 ♘d6 21.♖xe5+ ♗e6⯹) 18.♕f3 ♗g6 19.axb5 f6∞

17...♕c8 18.axb5 axb5 19.dxe5 dxe5

19...O-O!?

20.♗e3 O-O 21.h4?

21.♖e1 ♗xe3 22.♕xe3 f6 23.gxf6 ♖xf6 24.♘d2 ♘g5!↑; 21.♘d2 ♗xe3 22.fxe3 ♘xd2 23.♕xf5 ♘xf1 24.♕xc8 ♖xc8 25.♔xf1⯹

21...♗xe3 22.fxe3 g6 23.♔h2 ♕e6?!

23...h6! 24.gxh6 (24.♕g2 ♖d8 25.gxh6 ♖d3-+) 24...♕d8 25.♔g2 ♕xh4-+

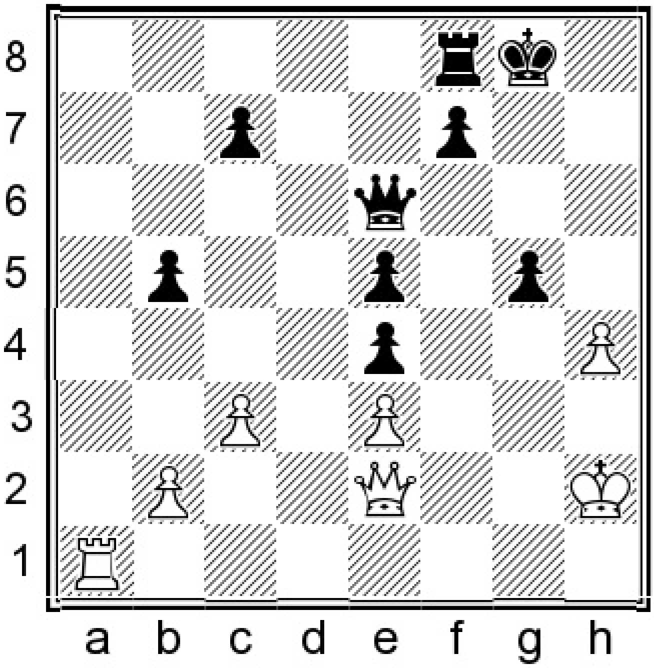
24.♕e2 h6

24...♖d8! 25.♖d1 ♘d6 26.♕g2 ♕c4 27.e4! ♗xe4 28.♘d2 ♗xg2 29.♘xc4 ♗f3 30.♘xd6 ♗xd1 31.♘xb5∓

25.♘d2 hxg5 26.♖xf5! gxf5

26...♕xf5 27.♖f1 ♖d8 28.♖xf5 ♖xd2 29.♕xd2 ♘xd2 30.♖f6 gxh4∓

27.♘xe4 fxe4



28.♖g1?

28.♕h5! ♕g6 29.♕xg6+ fxg6 30.hxg5 ♖f3 (30...♖f2+ 31.♔g1 ♖f5 32.♖a7 ♖xg5+ 33.♔h2 ♖h5+ 34.♔g3 ♖h7 35.♖b7∓) 31.♖a5 ♔f7 32.♖xb5 ♔e6∓

28...f6 29.♖g4

29.hxg5 f5-+; 29.♕h5 ♔g7-+

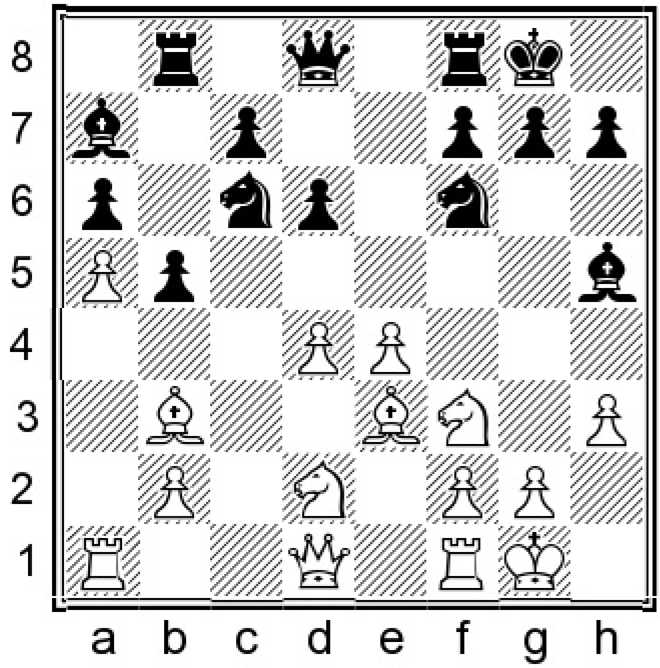
29...♔g7 30.♖xe4 ♖h8 31.♕g2 ♕d5 32.♕c2 ♕xe4 0-1

124. C78
Esipenko, Andrey (2720) - Shirov, Alexei (2659)
Riga 150/124, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O b5 6.♗b3 ♗c5 7.a4 ♖b8 8.c3 d6 9.d4 ♗b6 10.a5 ♗a7 11.♗e3 ♗g4 12.♘bd2

12.dxe5 - 108/(91)

12...exd4 13.cxd4 O-O 14.h3 ♗h5

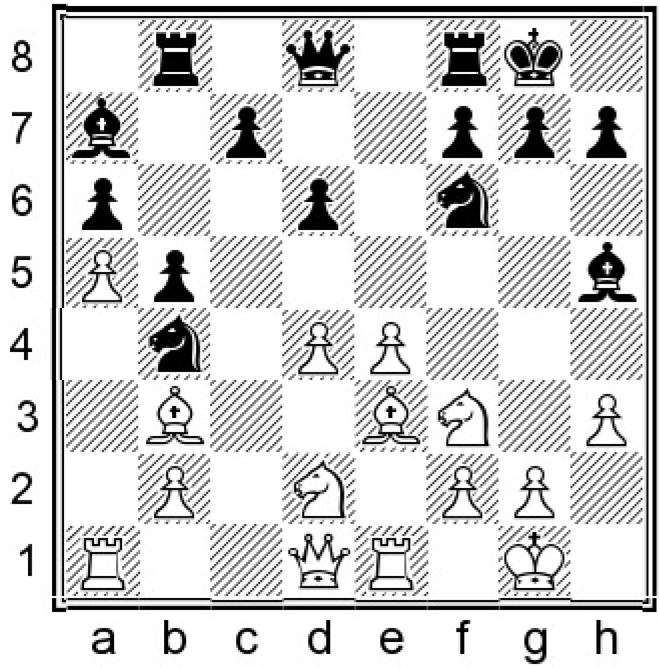


15.♖e1N

15.♕c2; 15.♕c1

15...♗xd4

15...♘xd4? 16.♗xd4 ♗xd4 17.g4 ♗xb2 18.♖a2 ♗c3 19.gxh5±; 15...♘b4!



16.♗g5 (16.♖c1!? ♖c8! (16...♘d3 17.♖c6 ♘xe1 18.♕xe1±) 17.d5 ♗xe3 18.♖xe3 c5 19.dxc6 ♘xc6∞) 16...h6 17.♗h4 g5 18.♗g3 ♗xd4 19.♕c1 ♗c5 20.e5 ♘d3 21.♕c2 dxe5 22.♘xe5 ♘xe1 23.♖xe1 ♗b4 24.♖d1! ♔g7 25.♘df3↑

16.♘xd4! ♘xd4

16...♗xd1 17.♘xc6 ♕e8 18.♘xb8 ♗xb3 19.♘xa6 ♕c8 20.♘xc7 ♕xc7 21.♘xb3 ♘xe4 22.♖ec1 ♕d7 23.♖d1±

17.g4

17.f3!?

17...♘xb3 18.♕xb3 ♗g6 19.♗g5

19.f4 ♗xe4 20.g5 ♗d5 21.♕d3 ♗c4 22.♘xc4 bxc4 23.♕xc4∞

19...h6 20.♗h4 ♗h7

20...c5 21.f4 c4 22.♕f3±

21.f4 g5 22.fxg5 ♘d7 23.♘f3 ♘e5 24.♘xe5 dxe5 25.♕e3 hxg5 26.♗xg5 f6 27.♗h4

27.♖ad1! ♕e7 28.♗h6 ♖fd8 29.♔h2! ♖xd1 30.♖xd1 ♗g6 (30...♖d8?? 31.♕b3+ ♔h8 32.♖xd8+ ♕xd8 33.♕f7+-) 31.g5±

27...♕d4 28.♖ac1 ♕xb2 29.♖c6

29.♖cd1! ♕b4 30.g5 ♖bd8 31.gxf6 ♔f7 32.♖c1 ♖g8+ 33.♔h1 ♖d7 34.♖c6±

29...♕d4 30.♗xf6 ♖f7?!

30...b4! 31.♕xd4 exd4 32.♗xd4 ♖fd8 33.♗f6 (33.♗e5 ♖b5⇄) 33...♖d6 34.♖xd6 cxd6 35.♖d1 b3 36.♗b2 ♗xe4 37.♖xd6 ♖c8 38.♖b6 ♗d5±

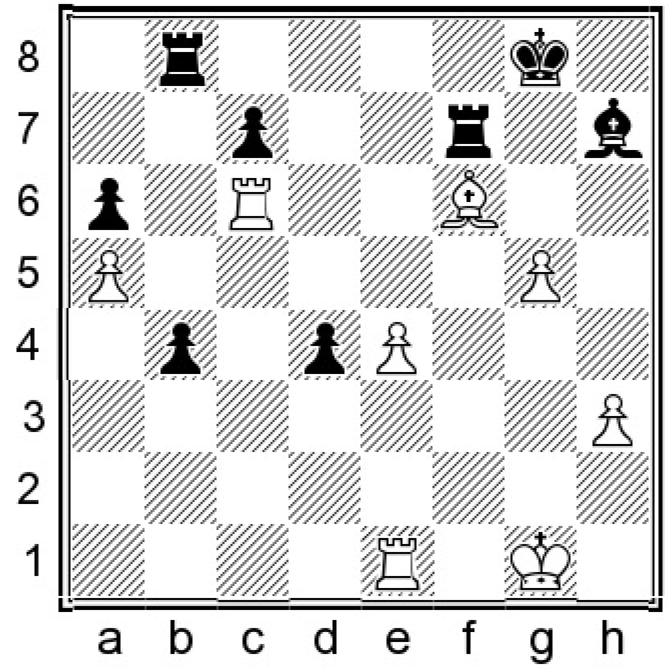
31.g5

31.♖e6! b4 (31...♖xf6 32.♖xf6 b4 33.♕xd4 exd4 34.g5 b3 (34...♔g7 35.♖c6+-) 35.g6 ♔g7 36.♖f7+ ♔xg6 37.♖xc7 b2 38.♖b1+-) 32.♗xe5 ♕xe3+ 33.♖xe3 b3 34.♗b2±

31...b4

31...♕xe3+ 32.♖xe3 b4 33.♗xe5 ♖e7 34.♗b2 ♖xe4 35.♖xe4 ♗xe4 36.♖xc7±

32.♕xd4 exd4



33.♗xd4?

33.e5! ♗f5 (33...b3 34.e6 ♖xf6 35.gxf6 b2 36.♖xc7 b1=Q 37.♖xb1 ♗xb1 38.♖g7+ ♔h8 39.e7+-) 34.e6 ♖h7 35.♖c5! ♗g6 36.♗xd4 b3 37.♗b2 ♖xh3 38.♖xc7 ♖h7 39.e7+-

33...♖d7 34.♗b2 ♖d2 35.♗c1 ♖d3 36.♔f2?

36.♖xc7 ♖e8 (36...♖xh3? 37.♗b2 ♖g3+ 38.♔f2 ♖xg5 39.♗f6 ♖f8 40.e5+-) 37.e5 (37.♗b2 ♗xe4 38.♖g7+ ♔f8 39.♖f1+ ♗f3 40.g6 ♖e2 41.♖c1 (41.♖f7+ ♔g8 42.♖1xf3 ♖xf3 43.♖xf3 ♖xb2=) 41...♗d5=) 37...♗f5 38.h4±

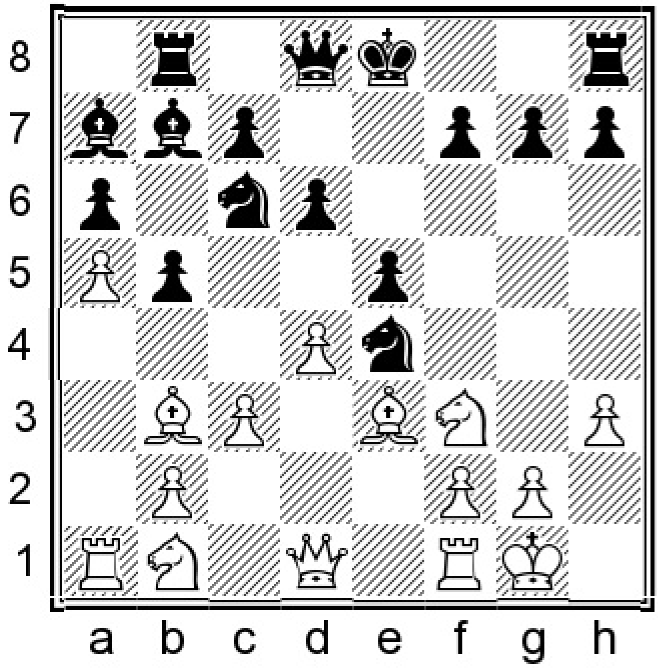
36...♖f8+ 37.♔g2 ♖ff3= 38.♖xc7

38.♖h6 b3 39.e5 ♖g3+ 40.♔h2 ♗f5 41.e6 ♖xh3+ 42.♖xh3 ♖xh3+ 43.♔g2 ♖c3 44.e7 ♗g6 45.e8=Q+ ♗xe8 46.♖xe8+ ♔f7 47.♖e1 c5∞

38...♖g3+ 39.♔f2 ♖df3+ 40.♔e2 ♗xe4 41.♔d1 ♖d3+ 42.♗d2 ♖g2 43.♖xe4 ♖gxd2+ 44.♔c1 ♖d1+ 45.♔b2 ♖1d2+ 46.♖c2 ♖xc2+ 47.♔xc2 ♖xh3 48.♖e6 ♖c3+ 49.♔b2 ♖a3 50.♖xa6 ♔g7 51.♖a8 ♔g6 52.a6 ♔g7 53.a7 ♔h7 54.g6+ ♔g7 55.♖b8 1/2-1/2

125. C78
Carlsen, Magnus (2855) - Firouzja, Alireza (2754)
Stavanger 150/125, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O b5 6.♗b3 ♗c5 7.a4 ♖b8 8.c3 d6 9.d4 ♗b6 10.a5 ♗a7 11.h3 ♗b7 12.♗e3 ♘xe4



13.♘bd2!?N

13.d5 - 149/120

13...♘xd2 14.♕xd2 O-O

14...exd4? 15.♗g5 ♕d7 16.♖ae1+ ♔f8 17.♕f4+-

15.dxe5 dxe5

15...♗xe3 16.♕xe3 dxe5 17.♘xe5 ♘xe5 (17...♕e7 18.♖fe1 ♘xe5 19.♕xe5 ♕xe5 20.♖xe5 ♖fe8 21.♖c5±) 18.♕xe5 ♖e8 19.♕f4±

16.♕xd8 ♖bxd8 17.♗xa7 ♘xa7 18.♘xe5 ♗d5 19.♗c2 ♘c6 20.♘xc6 ♗xc6 21.♖ad1 ♖fe8 22.♖xd8 ♖xd8 23.♖d1 ♖xd1+ 24.♗xd1 ♔f8 25.f4 ♔e7 26.♔f2 ♔d6 27.b4 ♗d5

27...h6! 28.g4 f6 29.♔e3 (29.h4 g5=) 29...g5=

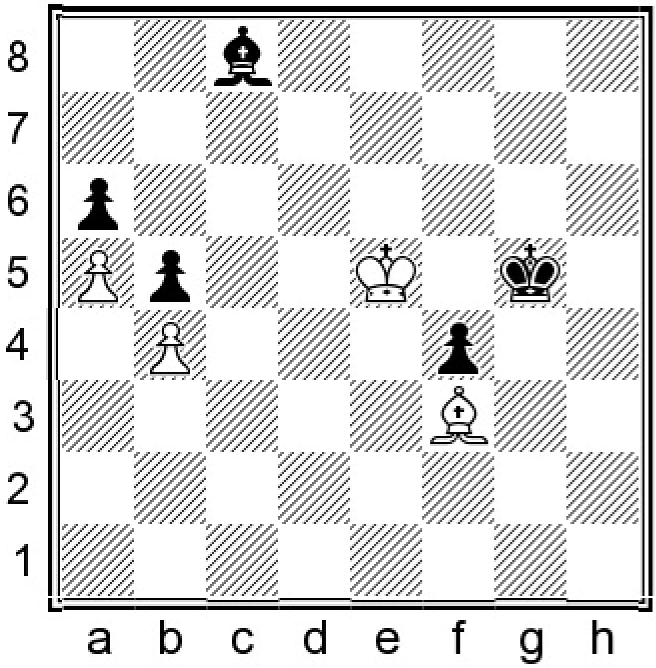
28.g4 h6 29.g5! hxg5 30.fxg5 c5 31.♔e3 cxb4 32.cxb4 ♔e5 33.h4 g6 34.♗g4 ♗e6 35.h5

35.♗f3 ♗d5=

35...gxh5 36.♗xh5 ♔f5 37.♗f3 ♗c8 38.♔d4 ♔xg5 39.♔e5 f5 40.♔d6 f4

40...♔f4 41.♗c6 ♔e3 42.♔c7 ♗e6 43.♔b7 f4 44.♔xa6 ♗c4 45.♔b6 f3=

41.♔e5



41...♔g6??

41...♗h3! 42.♗b7 ♗f1 43.♗c8 (43.♗xa6 f3 44.♗b7 f2 45.a6 ♗h3 46.a7 f1=Q 47.a8=Q=) 43...♗c4 (43...f3? 44.♔e4 ♗g2 (44...♔f6 45.♔xf3 ♔e5 46.♗xa6 ♔d6 47.♗b7 ♔c7 48.♗e4+-) 45.♔e3 ♔f6 46.♔f2+-) 44.♔e4 ♗f1! 45.♔f3 ♗c4 46.♗xa6 ♗d5+ 47.♔f2 ♗c6 48.♗c8 ♔f6 49.a6 ♔e5 50.♗g4 ♔d6 51.♗f3 ♗xf3 52.♔xf3 ♔c6 53.♔xf4 ♔b6 54.♔e5 ♔xa6=

42.♔xf4 ♔f6 43.♗d5Θ+- ♗d7

43...♔e7 44.♔e5 ♔d7 (44...♔d8 45.♔d6+-) 45.♗e6+ ♔c7 46.♗xc8 ♔xc8 47.♔d6+-

44.♗b7 ♔e6 45.♔e4 ♔d6 46.♗xa6 ♗c6+

46...♔c6 47.♔e5 ♗h3 48.♔f6 ♗g4 49.♔e7 ♗h3 50.♔d8 ♗f5 51.♗c8 ♗d3 52.♗g4

47.♔d4 ♗e8 48.♗b7 ♗d7 49.♗f3 ♗c8 50.♗e2 ♗d7 51.♗d3 ♗c6 52.♗e4 1-0

126. ** C78
Volokitin, Andrei (2652) - Aronian, Levon (2782)
Riga 150/126, 2021

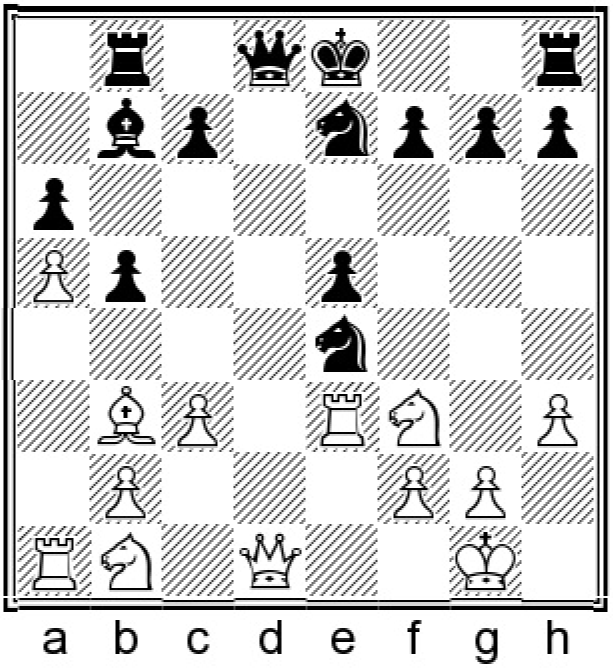
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O b5 6.♗b3 ♗c5 7.a4 ♖b8 8.c3 d6 9.d4 ♗b6 10.a5 ♗a7 11.h3 ♗b7 12.♗e3 ♘xe4 13.♖e1

13.d5 - 149/120

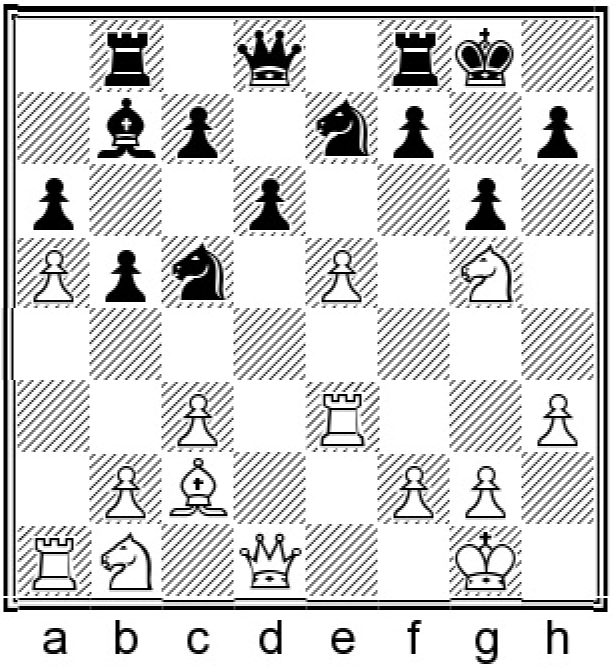
13...♘e7 14.dxe5

14.♘bd2

14...♗xe3 15.♖xe3 dxe5?



15...O-O! - 150/(126) 16.♗c2 ♘c5 17.♘g5!? (17.exd6 ♘d5!↑; 17.♘bd2 ♘d5 18.♖e1 ♘f4 19.♘e4∞) 17...g6



(17...h6 18.♘h7 ♖e8 19.♕g4∞) 18.♕g4?! Firouzja,A (2759)-Dubov,D (2710) lichess.org (Int.-m/10-blitz) 150/(126) 2021 (18.♕g4 dxe5!∓; 18.e6 ♘f5 19.exf7+ ♔g7 20.♗xf5 ♕xg5 21.♗g4 h5 22.♗f3 ♗xf3 23.♖xf3 ♖xf7=)

16.♖d3!N

16.♘xe5?! - 150/(126) 16...♕xd1+ 17.♗xd1 Abdusattorov,N (2634)-Maurizzi,M (2488) chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 150/ (126) 2021 (17.♗xd1 ♖d8 18.♗c2 ♘c5=)

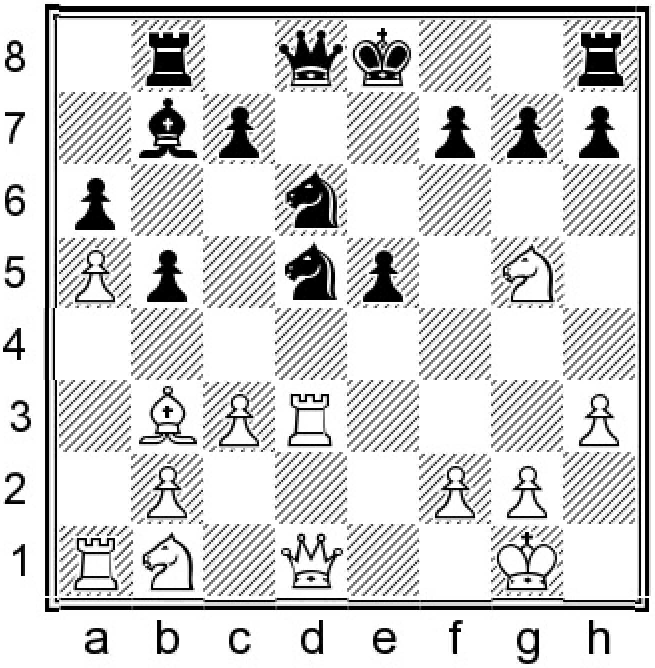
16...♘d6

16...♕c8 17.♘xe5 O-O 18.♘d7+-

17.♘g5!

17.♘xe5 O-O∞

17...♘d5



17...O-O? 18.♕h5 h6 19.♘xf7 ♖xf7 20.♗xf7+ ♔h8 21.♕xe5+-

18.♘xf7! ♘xf7 19.♗xd5 ♗xd5 20.♖xd5 ♕h4 21.♘d2± O-O 22.♕g4!?

22.♕e2 ♖bd8 23.♖xd8 ♖xd8 24.♘e4±

22...♕xg4 23.hxg4 c6

⌓23...♖bd8 24.♖xd8 ♘xd8 (24...♖xd8 25.♘e4 ♖d5 26.b4±) 25.♖e1 ♖e8 26.♘e4 ♘b7 27.b4±

24.♖d7 ♘g5

24...♖bd8 25.♖xd8 ♘xd8±

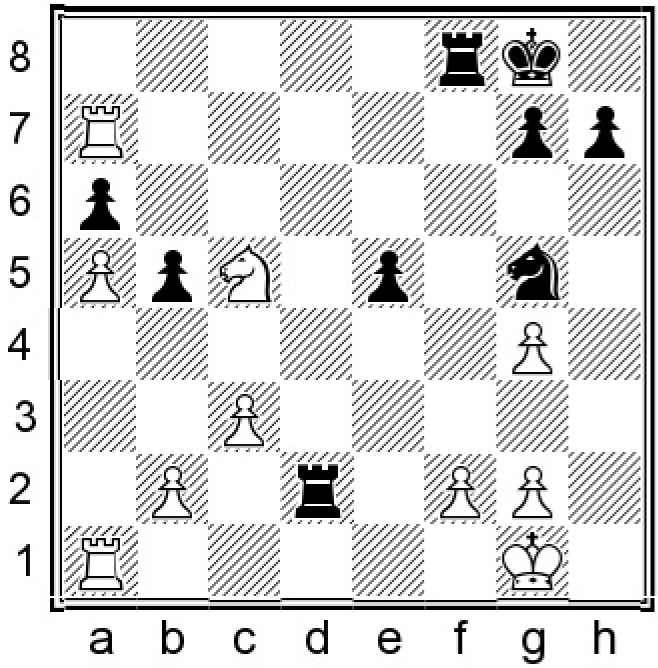
25.♖a7 ♖bd8

25...♖a8 26.♖xa8 ♖xa8 27.♘b3 ♔f7 28.♘c5±

26.♘b3 c5?

26...♖d5 27.♖xa6 c5 28.♖b6 (28.♖c6 c4 29.♘c5 ♖d2 30.f3 ♖xf3 31.♘e4!+-) 28...c4 29.a6 cxb3 30.a7 ♖dd8 31.♖xb5 ♖a8 32.♖xb3+-

27.♘xc5 ♖d2



28.♘d7! ♖d8

28...♖fxf2 29.♖a8+ ♔f7 30.♖f8+ ♔e7 31.♖xf2 ♖xd7 32.♖af1+-

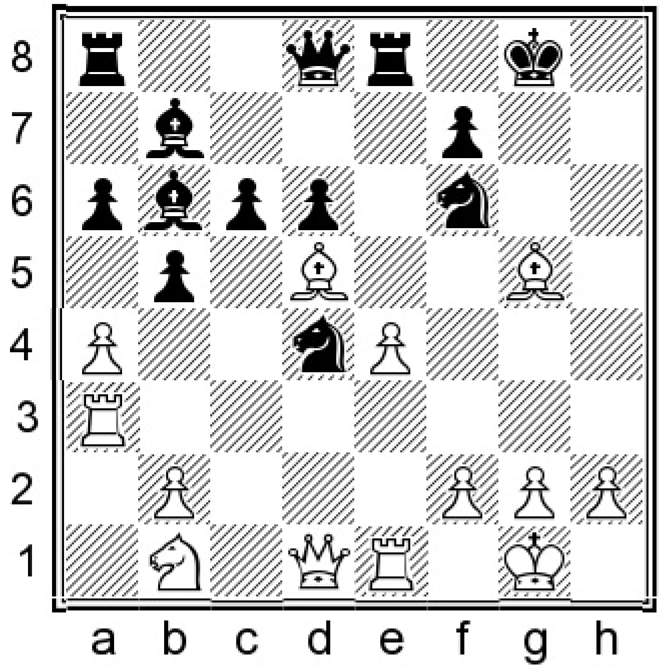
29.♘xe5 ♖xb2 30.♖e1 h6 31.♘g6 ♔h7 32.♘h4 b4 33.♖ee7 ♖g8 34.cxb4 ♖xb4 35.f3 h5 36.♘f5 hxg4 37.♖xg7+ ♔h8 38.♖xg8+ ♔xg8 39.♖g7+ 1-0

127. * C78
Pichot, Alan (2628) - Aronian, Levon (2782)
Riga 150/127, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗c5 6.c3 b5 7.♗b3 d6 8.a4 ♗b7 9.d4 ♗b6 10.♖e1 O-O 11.♗g5 h6 12.♗h4 exd4 13.cxd4 g5 14.♘xg5

14.♗g3 - 110/(189)

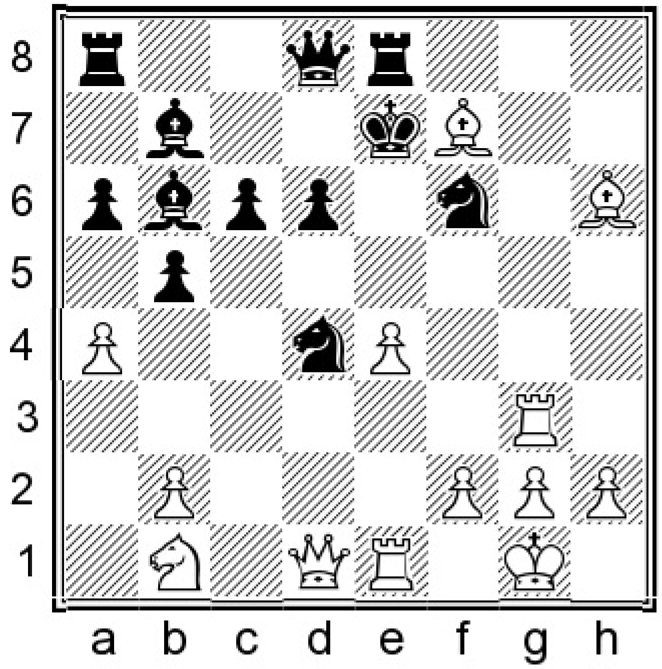
14...hxg5 15.♗xg5 ♘xd4 16.♗d5 c6 17.♖a3! ♖e8!



17...cxd5? 18.♖g3 ♔h7 19.e5! dxe5 20.♖xe5+-

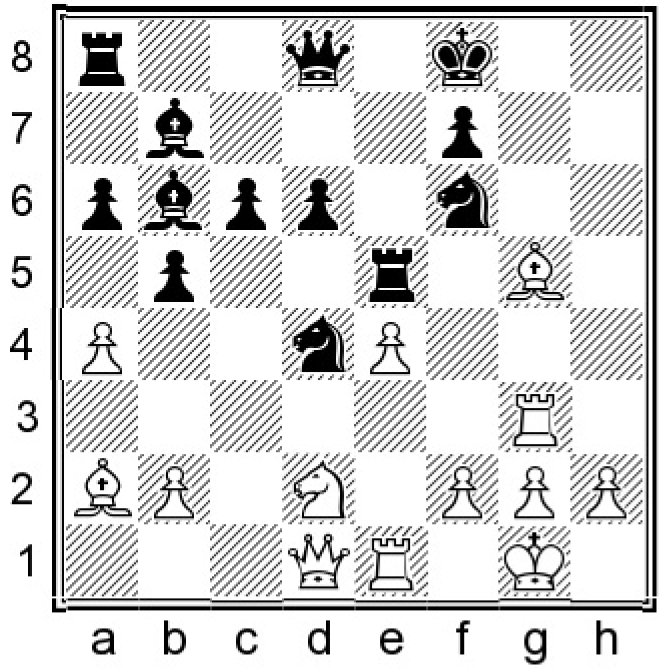
18.♗a2?N

18.♖g3 ♔f8 19.♗h6+ ♔e7 20.♗xf7!



20...♖f8!! (20...♔xf7? 21.♖g7+ ♔e6 22.♕d3! Δ Qh3+-) 21.♗a2 ♔d7 22.♘c3 c5∞

18...♖e5 19.♖g3 ♔f8 20.♘d2

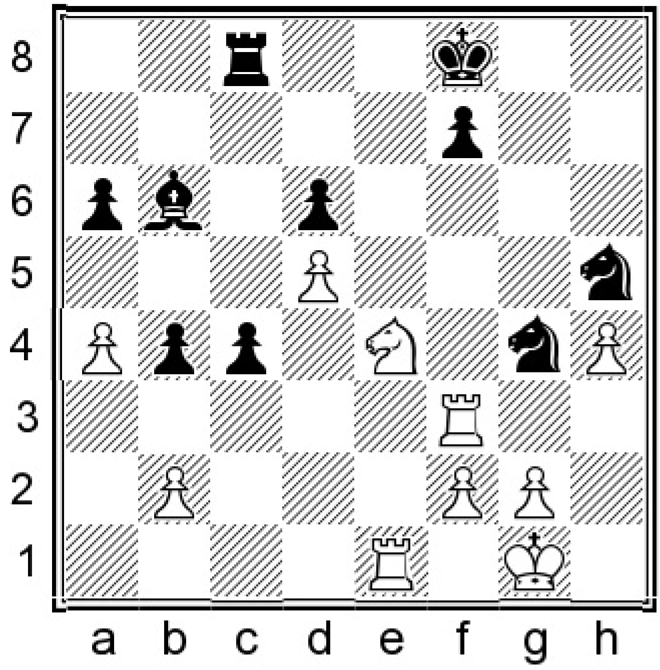


20.h4N ♕e7 21.♘d2 Raja,H (2459)-Milikow, Y (2299) Banja Vrujci 150/(127) 2021 (21.♘d2 ♘e6∓)

20...♖xg5! 21.♖xg5 c5 22.♗b1 c4 23.h4 ♘e6 24.♖f5 ♘g7 25.♖g5 ♘h7 26.♖g3 ♕f6 27.♘f3 ♕f4 28.♘d4 ♕e5 29.♘e2 ♘h5 30.♖f3 ♗c8! 31.♕d5 ♕xd5 32.exd5 ♘7f6 33.♗f5 ♘g4 34.♗xc8 ♖xc8 35.♘c3

35.axb5 axb5 36.♘c3 b4 37.♘b5 ♗c5-+

35...b4 36.♘e4



36...♖e8! 37.♖xf7+ ♔xf7 38.♘xd6+ ♔g6 39.♖xe8 ♗xf2+ 40.♔h1

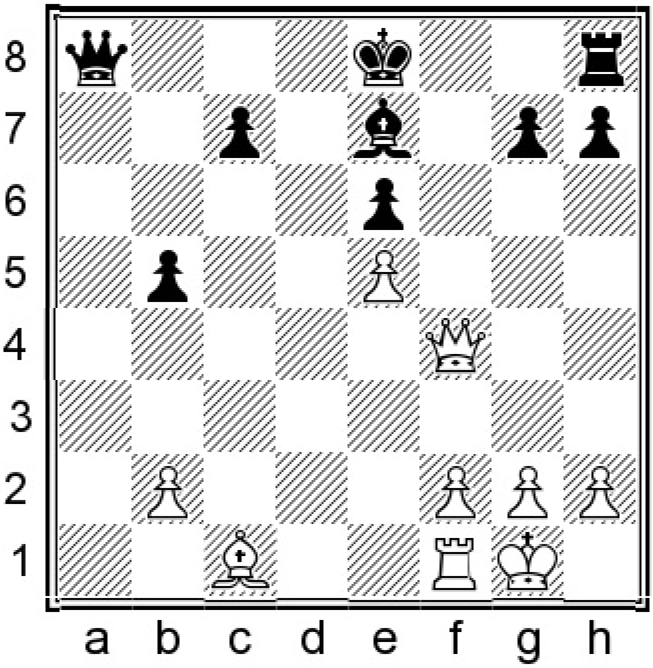
40.♔f1 ♘g3#

40...♘g3# 0-1

128. * C80
Motylev, Alexander (2624) - Matlakov, Maxim (2682)
Russia (ch) 150/128, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♘xe4 6.d4 b5 7.♗b3 d5 8.dxe5 ♗e6 9.♘bd2 ♘c5 10.c3 d4 11.♗xe6 ♘xe6 12.cxd4 ♘cxd4 13.♘e4

13.a4 ♗b4 14.axb5 ♘xf3+!? (14...♘xb5 - 102/249) 15.♘xf3 (15.♕xf3 O-O 16.♘e4 axb5 17.♘f6+ gxf6 18.♖xa8 ♕xa8 19.♕g4+ ♔h8 20.♕xb4 fxe5 21.♕xb5 ♕e4=) 15...axb5 16.♖xa8 ♕xa8 17.♘g5 ♗e7 18.♘xe6 fxe6 19.♕g4 ♔f7 20.♕f4+ (20.♗g5 ♖e8 21.♖d1 ♗xg5 (21...h6!?) 22.♕xg5 ♔g8 23.h3 h6=) 20...♔e8



21.♖d1N (21.♗e3) 21...♖f8 22.♕g4 ♕a4!= Shankland,S (2714)-Bruzon Batista,L (2645) USA (ch) 150/(128) 2021

13...♕d5!?

13...♗e7

14.♘xd4 ♘xd4 15.♘c3 ♕c4

15...♕d7 - 51/(331)

16.♗e3 ♖d8 17.♗xd4

17.♖c1 ♗b4 18.♗xd4 ♕xd4 (18...♖xd4? 19.♘xb5!±) 19.♕e2 ♗xc3 20.♖xc3 ♕d2 21.♕xd2 (21.♕e4 O-O=) 21...♖xd2 22.♖xc7 O-O=

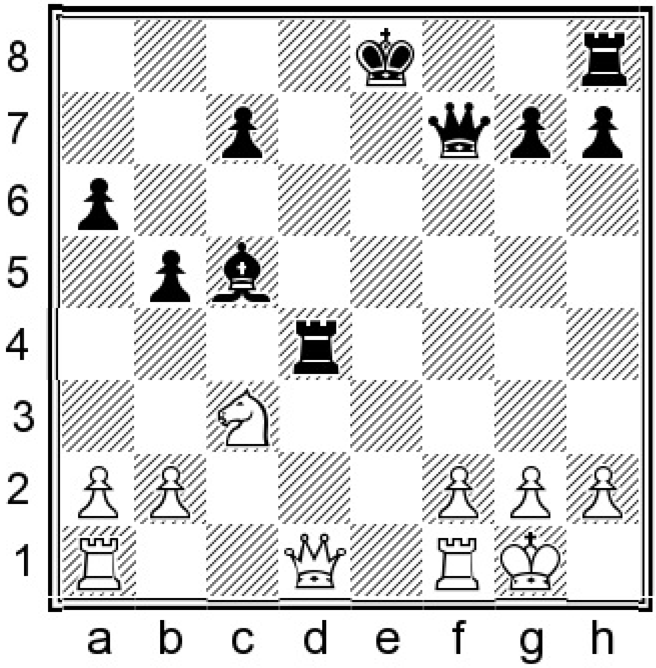
17...♗c5

17...♖xd4 18.♕f3±

18.e6 ♖xd4

18...♗xd4 19.exf7+ ♔xf7 20.♕f3+ ♔g8 21.♖ac1±

19.exf7+ ♕xf7



19...♔xf7? 20.♕f3+ ♖f4 21.♕h3±

20.♖e1+N

20.♕c2 O-O 21.♘xb5 ♖g4 22.♕xc5 (22.g3 ♗b6 23.♘c3 ♕f3 24.♕b3+ ♔h8 25.♘d1 ♕xb3 26.axb3 a5=) 22...♖xg2+ 23.♔xg2 ♕f3+ 24.♔g1 ♕g4+=; 20.♕e2+ ♔d7 21.a4 ♖e8 22.♕c2 ♕g6 23.♕xg6 hxg6 24.axb5 axb5 25.♘xb5 ♖d2=

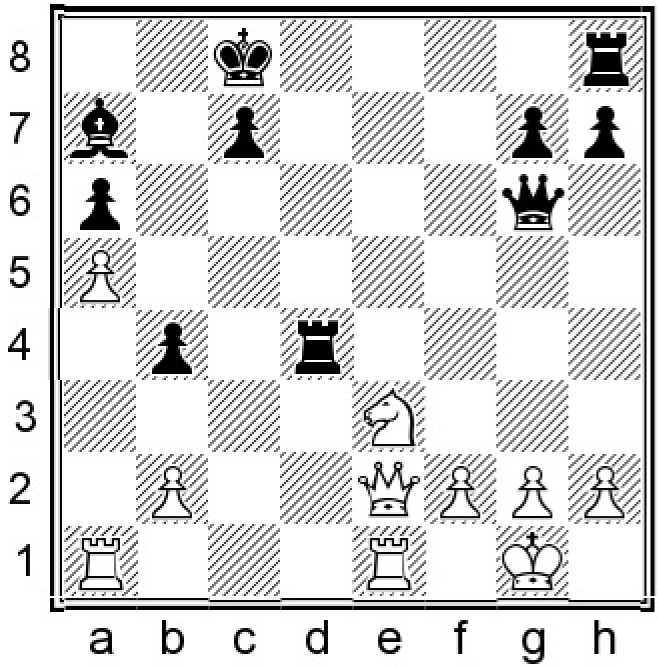
20...♔d7 21.♕c2 ♗b6 22.a4 b4 23.a5 ♗a7 24.♘d1?

24.♖ad1 bxc3 (24...♔c8 25.♕e2 (25.♘e4?! ♕c4!∓) 25...bxc3 26.♕xa6+ ♔b8 27.♕b5+ ♔c8 28.♕a6+=) 25.♖xd4+ ♗xd4 26.♕a4+ ♔c8 27.♕xd4 c2! (27...cxb2?! 28.♖b1!±) 28.♕e4 ♕b3 29.♕a8+ ♕b8 30.♕xa6+ ♕b7 31.♕e6+ ♔b8=

24...♕g6 25.♕e2

25.♕b3

25...♔c8 26.♘e3



26...♖hd8?!

26...♖e8! 27.♖ac1 ♖de4 28.♕f3 ♔b8∓

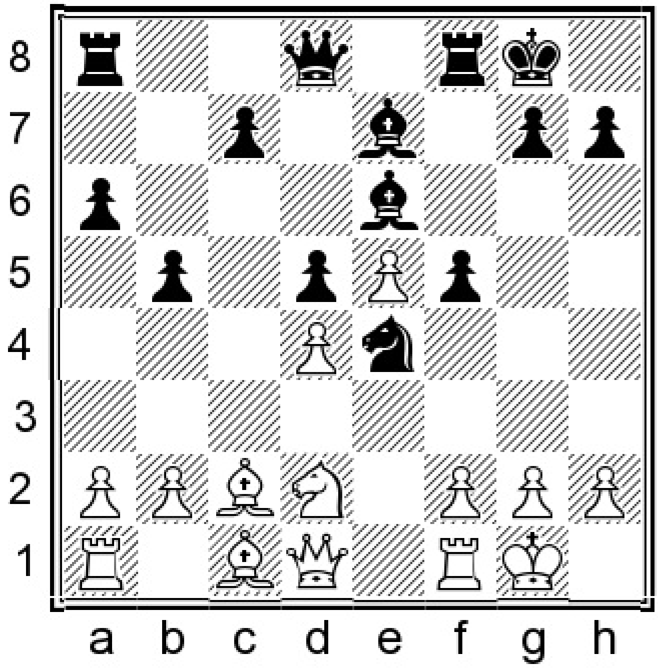
27.♖ac1 ♖d2?

27...♔b8 28.♖c4 ♖xc4 29.♕xc4 ♖d4 30.♕g8+ ♔b7∓

28.♕c4 ♖8d7 29.♕xb4 ♕f7 30.♕e4 ♔b8 31.♕b4+ ♔c8 32.♕e4 ♔b8 33.♕b4+ ♔c8 1/2-1/2

129. C83
Inarkiev, Ernesto (2663) - Anton Guijarro, David (2651)
Struga 150/129, 2021

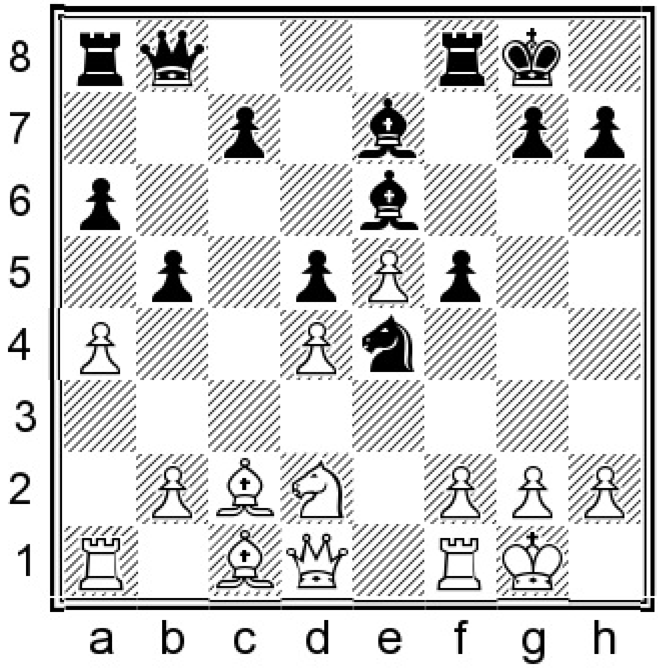
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♘xe4 6.d4 b5 7.♗b3 d5 8.dxe5 ♗e6 9.♘bd2 ♗e7 10.c3 O-O 11.♗c2 f5 12.♘d4!? ♘xd4 13.cxd4



13...♕b8N

13...♕d7 - 95/248

14.a4



14.♘b3 a5 15.f3 a4 16.fxe4 axb3 17.♗xb3 fxe4 18.♗e3 c6∞; 14.f3 ♘xd2 15.♗xd2 c5∞; 14.♘xe4 fxe4 15.♗e3 c5 16.dxc5 ♕xe5 17.♗d4 ♕g5∞

14...c5! 15.dxc5

15.axb5 ♕xb5 16.dxc5 ♗xc5 17.♘b3 f4!? 18.♖a5 ♕b6 19.♘xc5 (19.♗xe4?! ♗xf2+! 20.♖xf2 dxe4∓)

19...♘xc5∞

15...♗xc5 16.♘b3 bxa4!?

16...♗b6 17.a5 (17.axb5 ♕xe5 18.bxa6 ♗c7 19.♕h5 ♘xf2! 20.♖xf2 ♕e1+ 21.♖f1 ♗b6+ 22.♗e3 ♕xe3+ 23.♔h1 ♖f6↑) 17...♗a7 18.♘d4 ♕xe5 19.♘c6 ♕d6 20.♘xa7 ♖xa7 21.♗e3 ♖d7 22.♗d4⯹

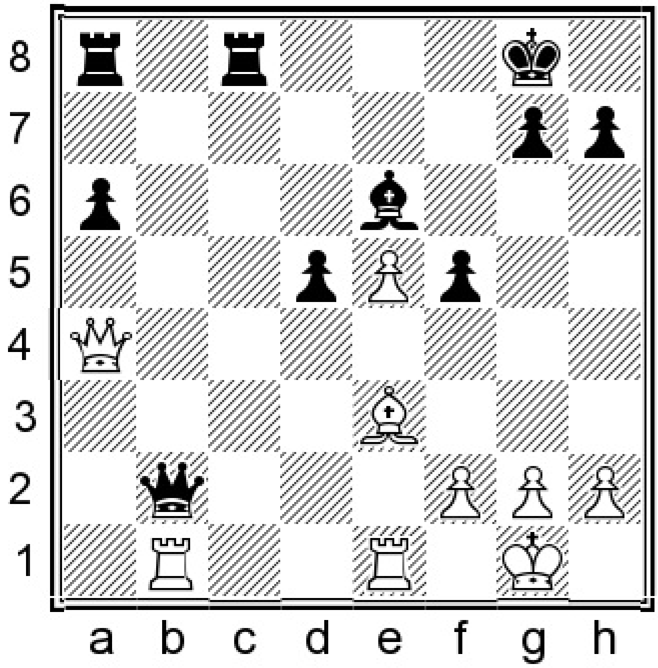
17.♘xc5 ♘xc5 18.♖e1

18.♗e3 d4 19.♕xd4 ♘b3 20.♗xb3 axb3∞; 18.♗xa4!? ♕xe5 19.♖e1 ♕d6 20.♗e3 ♘xa4 21.♕xa4⯹

18...♖c8 19.♗xa4 ♕b4 20.♗e3 ♘xa4 21.♕xa4

21.♖xa4 ♕xb2 22.♕a1 ♕xa1 23.♖exa1 ♖c6 24.f4=

21...♕xb2 22.♖ab1



22...♕c2

22...♖c4! 23.♖xb2 (23.♕a5 ♕xe5∓) 23...♖xa4∓

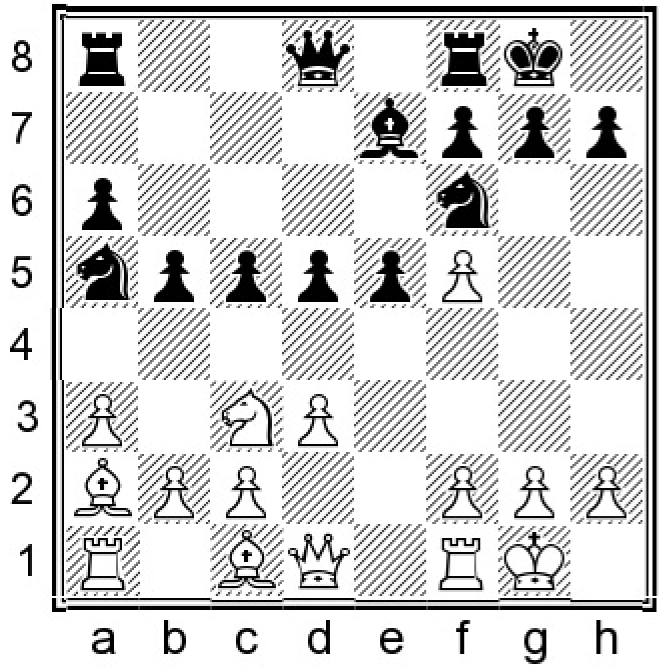
23.♕a3 ♕c3 24.♕e7 ♖e8 25.♕d6 ♖ad8 26.♕xa6 ♖a8 27.♕d6 ♖ad8 28.♕a6 ♖a8 29.♕b5 ♖ab8 30.♕a4 ♕c4 31.♕a7 ♖xb1 32.♖xb1 f4 33.♖c1 ♕e4 34.♗d2 f3 35.♕e3 fxg2 1/2-1/2

130. C84
Perunovic, Milos (2541) - Kantor, Gergely (2566)
Terme Catez 150/130, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗e7 6.d3 b5 7.♗b3 d6 8.a3 ♘a5 9.♗a2 c5 10.♘c3 ♗e6 11.♘h4

11.♗xe6 - 126/109

11...O-O 12.♘f5 ♗xf5 13.exf5 d5



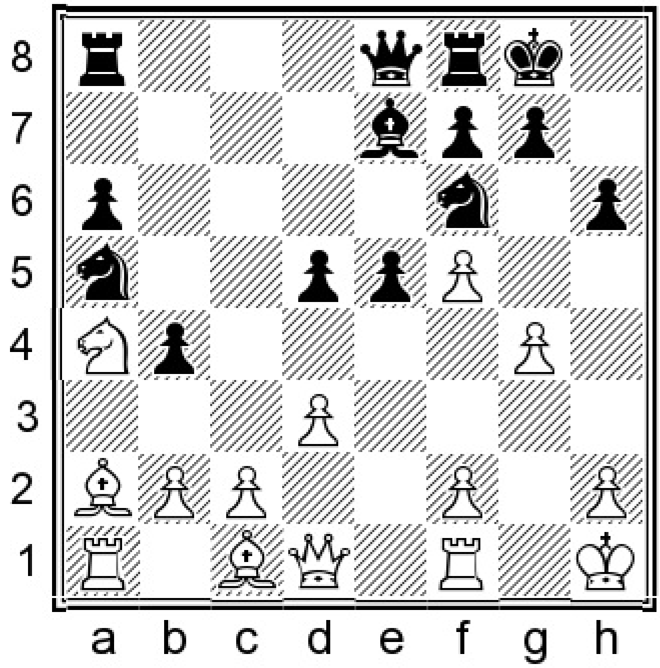
14.g4!?N

14.♗g5; 14.♕f3

14...b4

14...h6 15.♕f3 c4 16.g5 hxg5 17.♗xg5→; 14...d4 15.♘b1 h6 16.♘d2∞

15.♘a4 h6 16.♔h1 ♕e8 17.axb4 cxb4



18.♖g1! ♕xa4 19.♗xh6! ♘h7?!

19...gxh6 20.g5 ♔h7 (20...hxg5? 21.♖xg5+ ♔h8 22.♖h5++-) 21.♕f3!? ♖ad8 22.♕h3 ♘g8 23.♗xd5 ♕xa1 24.g6+ ♔g7 25.♖xa1 ♖xd5 26.gxf7 ♔xf7 27.♕h5+ ♔g7 28.♖g1+ ♗g5 29.h4 ♖xf5 30.hxg5 ♖xg5 31.♖xg5+ hxg5 32.♕xg5+ ♔f7 33.♕h5+ ♔e6 34.♕g4+ ♔f7 35.♕xb4±

20.g5 ♕c6

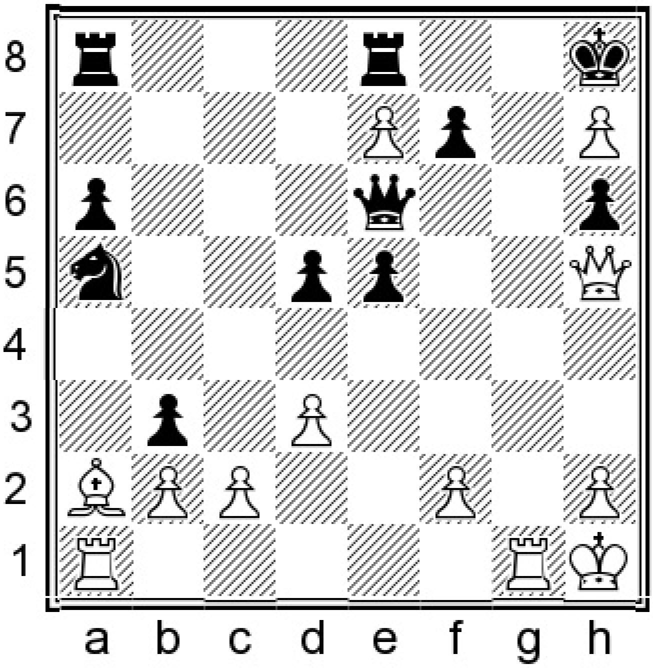
20...gxh6 21.f6 hxg5 22.fxe7 ♖fe8 23.♗xd5 ♕b5 24.♕f3+-; 20...♕d7 21.f6 b3! 22.♗xg7 bxa2 23.♕h5 ♕f5 24.fxe7 ♖fe8 25.♕h6 ♕g6 26.♗f6 ♘c6 27.h4 ♘xe7 (27...♖xe7 28.♕xg6+ fxg6 29.♗xe7 ♘xe7 30.♖xa2±) 28.h5 ♕xh6 29.gxh6+ ♘g6 (29...♔f8? 30.♗g7+ ♔g8 31.♗xe5+ ♔f8 32.♖g7+-) 30.♗g7 ♘hf8 31.hxg6 ♘xg6 32.♖xa2±

21.f6 gxh6 22.fxe7 ♖fe8

22...d4+ 23.♖g2 ♖fe8 24.g6+-

23.♕h5 hxg5

23...b3 24.g6 ♔h8 25.gxh7 ♕e6



(25...bxa2 26.♕xf7+-) 26.♖ae1! ♖xe7 27.cxb3+-; 23...♖xe7□ 24.g6 ♘g5 25.♖xg5 f6 26.♖g4 ♔g7 27.♖xb4±

24.♖xg5+! ♘xg5 25.♕xg5+ ♔h7

25...♕g6 26.♕xg6+ fxg6 27.♗xd5+ ♔g7 28.♗xa8+-

26.♖g1 ♕g6 27.♕xe5

27.♕e3! ♕e6 (27...♕h6 28.♕f3 ♖xe7 29.♕f5+ ♔h8 30.♖g5 b3 31.♖h5 ♖e6 32.cxb3 ♘c6 33.♕xf7±) 28.♕f3 b3 29.♕h5+ ♕h6 30.♕xf7+ ♔h8 31.♗xb3 ♘xb3 32.cxb3±

27...♘c6 28.♕f4 ♕h6?

28...♘xe7 29.♖xg6 ♘xg6 30.♕xb4 ♖e5

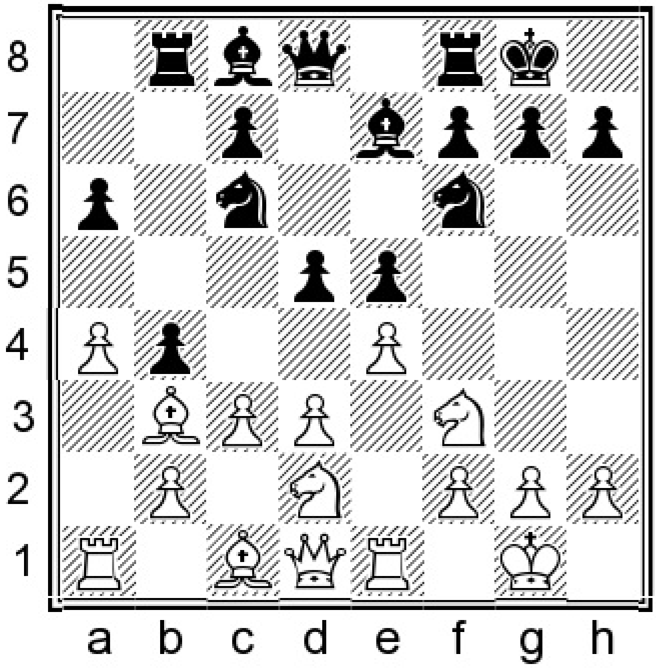
29.♕xf7++- ♔h8 30.♗xd5 ♖ac8

30...♘e5 31.♕f5

31.♖g6 ♕c1+ 32.♔g2 ♖xe7 33.♖g8+ 1-0

131. C88
Garifullina, Leya (2409) - Shuvalova, Polina (2509)
Russia (ch) 150/131, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗e7 6.♖e1 b5 7.♗b3 O-O 8.a4 ♖b8 9.d3 d6 10.c3 b4 11.♘bd2 d5



11...♘a5 - 23/300

12.exd5N

12.a5!? bxc3 13.bxc3 dxe4 14.dxe4 ♗c5 15.♗c4 ♕e7 16.h3±

12...♘xd5 13.♘xe5 ♘xe5 14.♖xe5 ♗e6 15.♖xe6?

15.♗xd5 ♗xd5 16.d4 ♗f6 (16...♖b6!? 17.♘f3 ♖g6 18.♗f4 ♕a8 19.♗g3±) 17.♖e1 ♖e8 18.♘f1 ♕d6=∞

15...fxe6 16.♘e4 bxc3 17.bxc3 ♘xc3! 18.♘xc3 ♕d4 19.♗xe6+ ♔h8 20.♗e3 ♕xc3 21.d4 ♗a3

21...♖b2 22.♖c1 ♕a5 Δ Qg5∓

22.g3 a5 23.♖b1

23.♖a2 ♗b2 24.♕e2 ♕c6 25.d5 ♕c3 26.♗f4=∞

23...♖xb1 24.♕xb1 ♗b4

24...♗e7 25.♕d1 ♗f6 26.h4 ♖d8 27.d5 c6 28.♕h5 g6 29.♕f3 cxd5 30.♗xd5 ♗d4 31.♗xd4+ ♕xd4 32.♗b3∓

25.♕a2

25.♗f5 h6 26.♗e4 ♕e1+ 27.♕xe1 ♗xe1 28.♗c6∓

25...♕c6

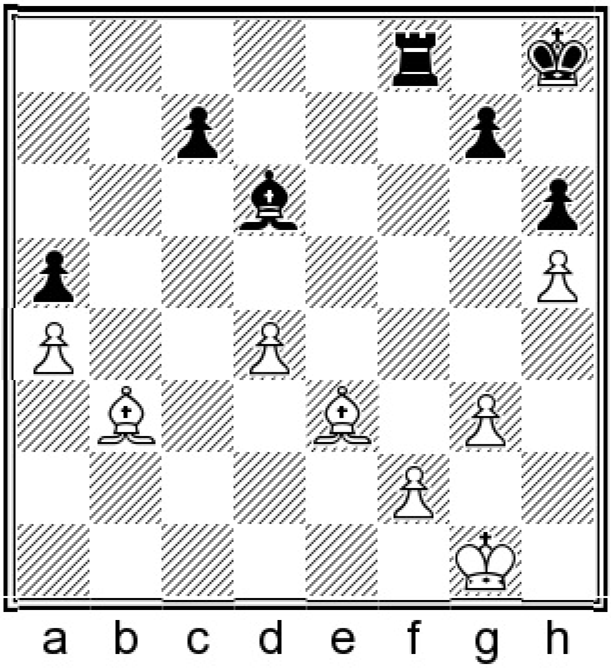
⌓25...♗e7 Δ Bf6

26.h4 ♗d6 27.♕b3 ♕e4 28.h5?

28.♗d5 ♕f5 29.♔g2

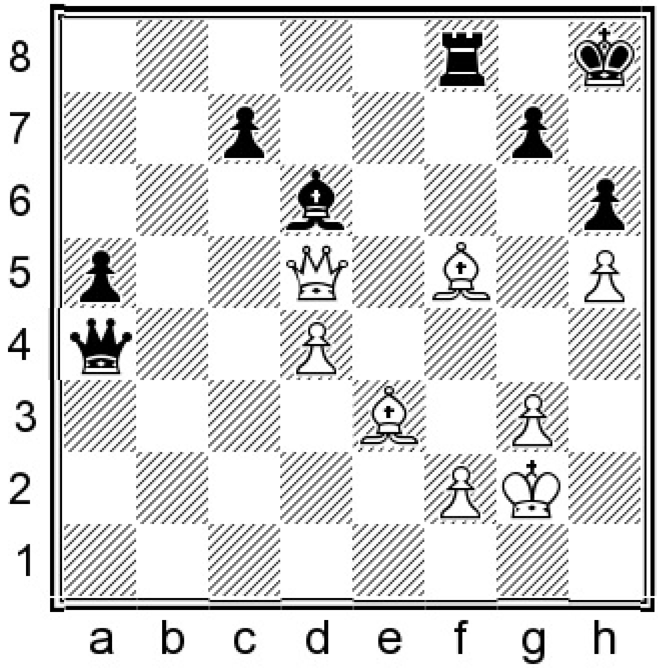
28...h6 29.♕d5 ♕c2 30.♔g2

30.♕b3 ♕xb3 31.♗xb3



31...♗xg3!; 30.♕c4 ♕d1+ 31.♔h2 (31.♔g2 ♕f3+ 32.♔g1 ♗xg3-+) 31...♕xh5+-+

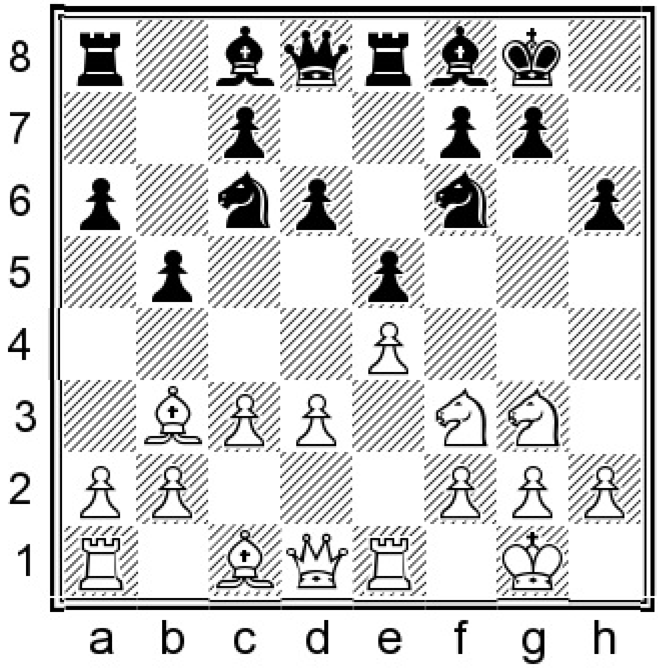
30...♕xa4 31.♗f5



31...♕e8! 32.♗g6 ♕a8 33.♗e4 ♕xd5 34.♗xd5 a4-+ 35.♗c1 ♖f5 36.♗a2 ♖xh5 37.g4 ♖h2+ 38.♔g1 ♖h4 39.♗e6 a3 40.♔g2 ♖h2+ 41.♔g1 ♖h3 42.♗e3 ♖f3 43.♗a2 ♖f8 44.♗d2 ♖e8 45.♗e3 ♖e4 46.g5 ♗f4 0-1

132. ** C90
Caruana, Fabiano (2800) - Predke, Alexandr (2666)
Riga 150/132, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗e7 6.d3 d6 7.c3 O-O 8.♘bd2 ♖e8 9.♖e1 ♗f8 10.♘f1 h6 11.♘g3 b5 12.♗b3



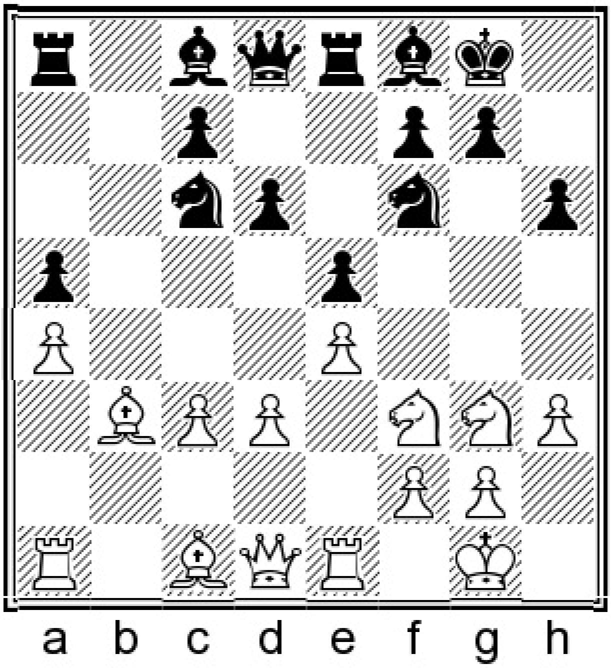
12...a5N

12...♗e6 - 147/122

13.a4 b4 14.h3 bxc3 - 150/132

14...♖b8N 15.d4 bxc3 16.bxc3 exd4 17.cxd4 ♘b4 18.♗f4 (18.♗d2 c5 19.♗c3 d5 20.dxc5 ♗xc5 21.e5 ♘d7 22.♗xd5 ♘xd5 23.♕xd5 ♗b7 24.♕d3 ♕b6=∞ 25.♕xd7 ♗xf2+ 26.♔h2 ♗xf3 27.e6! ♗xg3+ 28.♔xg3 ♗h5 29.e7 ♗g6∞) 18...♗a6 19.♖e3 d5? (19...♖b7! 20.♖c1 c5 21.d5 g6∞) 20.e5 ♘e4 21.♘xe4 dxe4 22.♖xe4 ♗b7 23.d5 (23.e6! ♗xe4 24.exf7+ ♔h8 25.fxe8=Q ♕xe8 26.♗xc7 ♖c8 27.♗g3+-) 23...♗xd5 24.♖d4 ♗xb3 25.♕xb3 ♕e7= Pichot,A (2800)-Matlakov,M (2666) Riga 150/(132) 2021

15.bxc3



15...♗e6 16.♗c2 - 150/132

16.♗xe6N ♖xe6 17.♖b1 d5 18.♕e2 d4 19.♗b2 ♖b8 20.♖ec1 (20.cxd4 exd4 21.♖bc1 ♖b4 22.♗a3 ♖xa4 23.♗xf8 ♕xf8 24.♖c2 (Δ Rec1) 24...♘b4!? 25.♘xd4 ♘xc2 26.♘xe6 ♕b4!∞) 20...dxc3 21.♗xc3 ♖xb1 22.♖xb1 ♗b4 23.♕c2 g6 24.♗b2 ♘d7∞ Vokhidov,S (2521)-Caruana,F (2791) Riga 150/(132) 2021

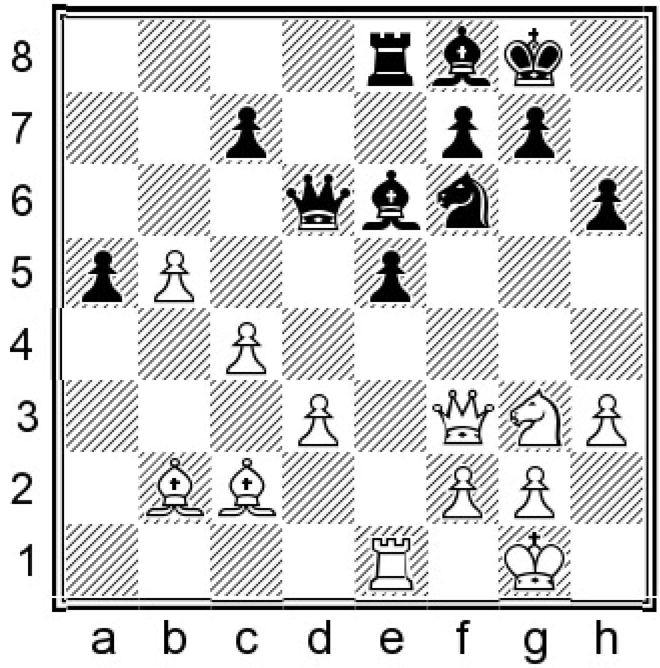
16...d5 17.exd5 ♕xd5 18.♖b1 ♖ab8 19.♖b5!? ♖xb5 20.c4

20.axb5? ♕xb5 21.♗a4 ♕a6∓

20...♕d6 21.axb5 ♘d4 22.♗b2

22.♘xd4 ♕xd4 23.♗d2 a4 24.♗e3 ♕c3 25.♗d2 ♕d4=

22...♘xf3+ 23.♕xf3



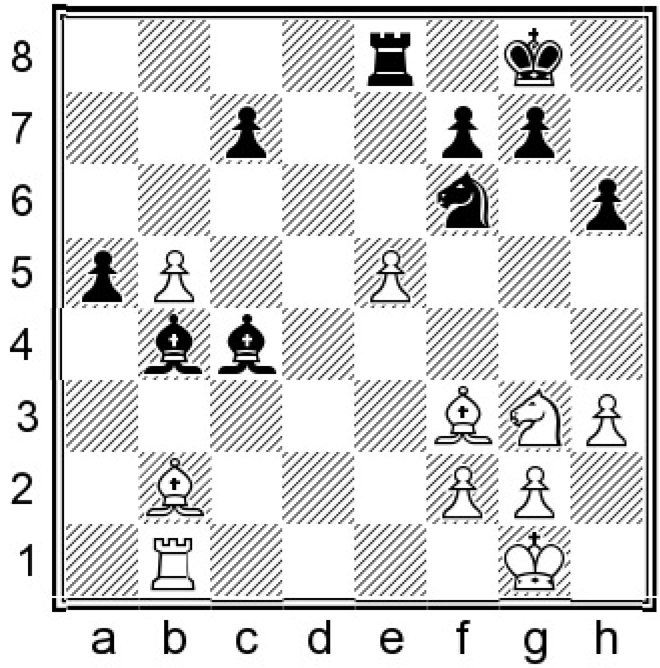
23...♕b4! 24.♖b1 ♕d2 25.♕d1 ♕xd1+ 26.♗xd1 ♗b4!

26...♘d7?! 27.♗c3 ×a5

27.♗f3

27.♗xe5? ♗xc4

27...e4 28.dxe4 ♗xc4 29.e5?!



29.♖c1 ♗xb5 30.♖xc7 ♖e7 31.♖c8+ ♖e8=

29...♘d5?!

29...♘h7! 30.♖c1 ♗xb5 31.♖xc7 ♘g5 32.♗g4 (32.♗d5 ♖d8; 32.♘f5 ♘xf3+ 33.gxf3 ♖e6∓) 32...♘e6∓

30.♖c1 ♘b6 31.♘f5 ♗d3 32.♘e3 ♗xb5 33.♖xc7 ♖e7 34.♖c1 ♖d7

34...a4? 35.♗d4+-

35.♗e4

35.♗a1∞

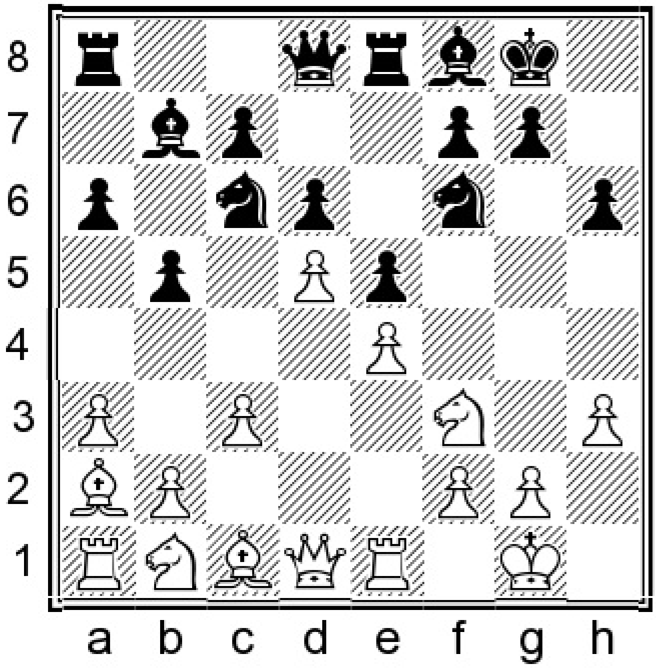
35...♗d2 36.♖c5 ♗d3 37.♗f3 ♔h7 38.♖c6 ♗xe3 39.fxe3 ♘c4 40.♗d4 ♖e7 41.♖c5 a4 42.♗c6 a3 43.♗b5 ♘b2 44.♗xb2 ♗xb5 45.♗xa3 ♖b7 46.e6 1/2-1/2

133. * C92**
Shirov, Alexei (2673) - Erdos, Viktor (2615)
Terme Catez 150/133, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗e7 6.♖e1 b5 7.♗b3 d6 8.c3 O-O 9.h3 ♖e8 10.d4 ♗b7 11.♘g5

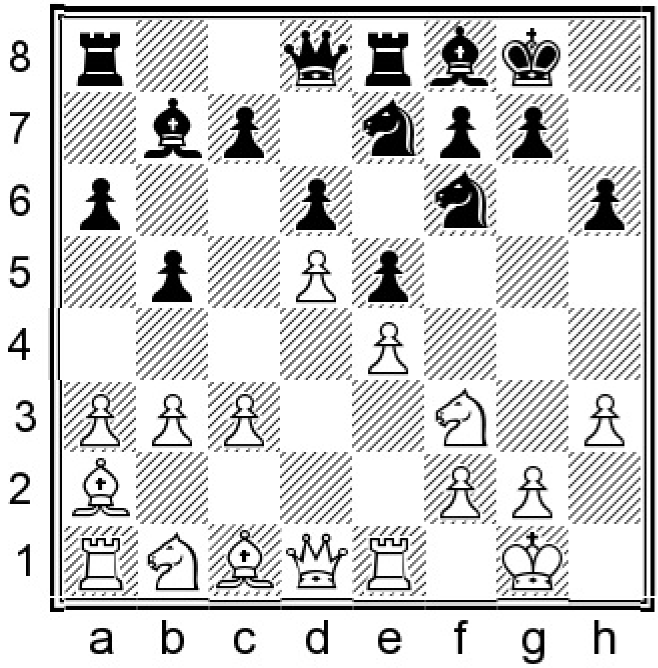
11.♘bd2 - 149/130

11...♖f8 12.♘f3 ♖e8 13.a3 h6 14.♗a2 ♗f8 15.d5

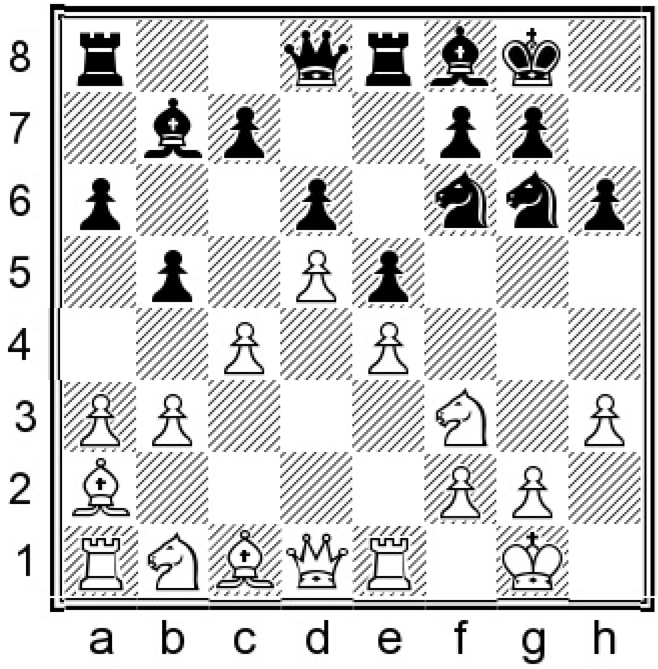


15...♘b8N

15...♘e7 - 150/(133) 16.b3



16...♗c8N - 150/(133) (16...♘g6 - 150/(133) 17.c4

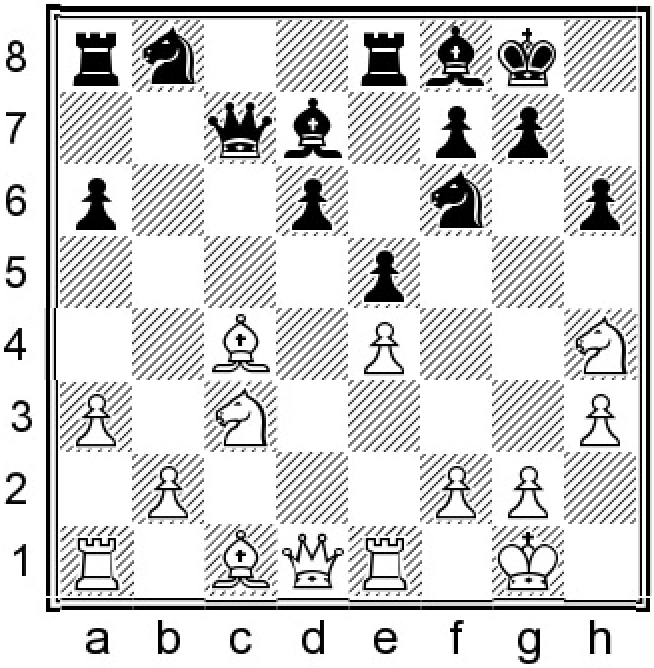


17...♖c8N (17...c6) 18.♘c3 c6 19.♗d2 ♘f4 20.♗b1 bxc4 21.bxc4 a5 22.♗c2 cxd5 23.cxd5 ♗a6 24.♖b1 ♗d3 25.♗xf4 ♗xc2 26.♕xc2 exf4 27.♘d4 ♘d7 28.f3 ♘e5 29.♕d2 g6 30.♘ce2 ♗g7 1/2 (28) Ottesen,S-Rets,Y corr 150/(133) 2021; 16...c5N 17.c4 bxc4 18.bxc4 ♘g6 19.♗b3 ♗c8 20.♗a4 ♗d7 21.♘c3 ♖b8 22.♗d2 ♘h5 23.g3 ♖e7 24.♔g2 ♕c8 25.♗xd7 ♖xd7 26.♘h2 ♘f6 27.♕f3 ♖b3 Firouzja,A (2759)-Le,Q (2709) chess24.com (Int. -m2/2-rapid) 150/(133) 2021 (27...♖b3 28.♖eb1 ♖db7 29.♖xb3 ♖xb3 30.♕d1 ♕b7 31.♘f1±)) 17.c4 c6 18.♘c3 cxd5 19.cxd5 ♕a5 20.♖e3 ♘g6 21.♗b1 ♗d7 22.♗d2 ♖ec8 23.a4 ♕d8∞ Ottesen,S-Rets,Y corr 150/(133) 2021

16.c4 c6 17.♘c3 bxc4 18.dxc6 ♗xc6 19.♗xc4 ♕c7?!

RR19...♘bd7 20.b4 (20.♘h4? ♘xe4!) 20...♘b6 21.♗b3± Tadic,Branko

20.♘h4! [Δ Nf5] **20...♗d7?**



RR20...♘bd7 21.♘f5 ♘b6 22.♗a2→ Tadic,Branko

21.♘d5!!

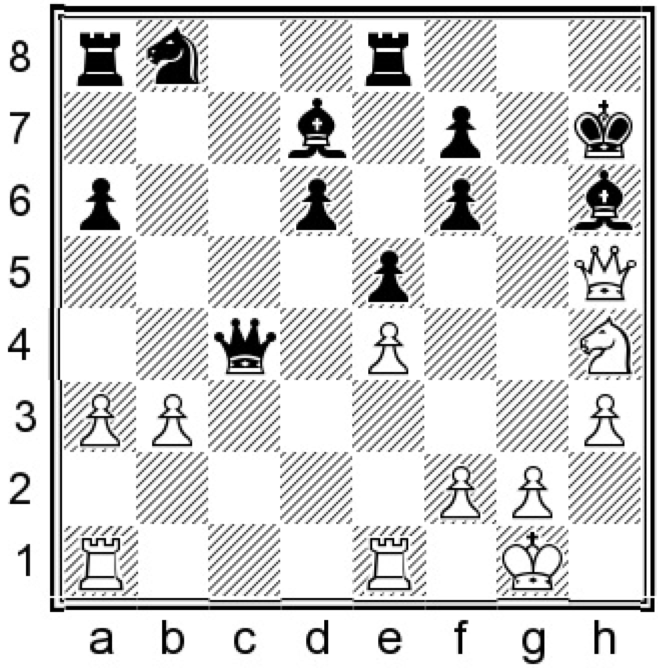
21.♗a2 ♗e6 22.♘f5 ♘bd7 23.♘e3±; 21.♕d3!? ♗e6 22.♗xe6 fxe6 23.♘g6 ♘bd7 24.♗e3± ×d6

21...♕xc4

RR21...♘xd5 22.♗xd5 ♗c6 23.♗a2 ♖a7 24.♘f5→ Tadic, Branko

22.♘xf6+ gxf6 23.♕h5 f5

23...♔h7 24.b3!! (24.♗d2; 24.♗xh6 ♗xh6 25.b3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4
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a
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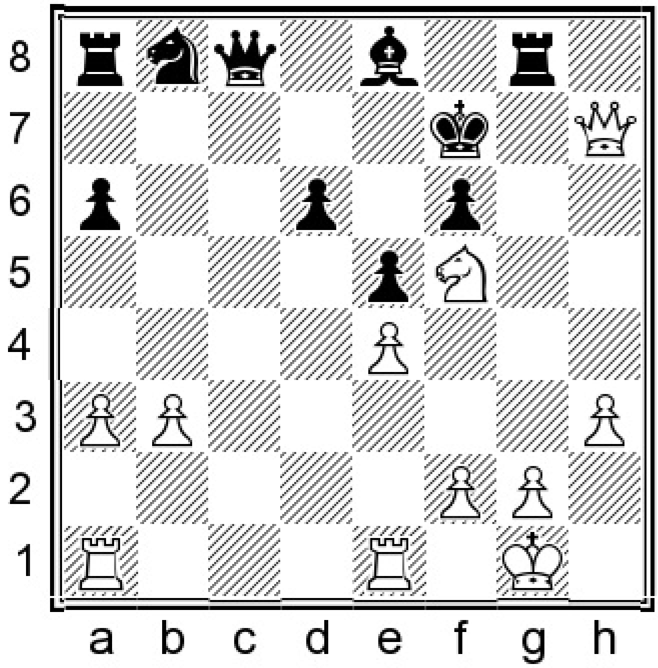
d
e
f
g
h

25...♕c8! 26.♕xf7+ ♗g7 27.♘f5 ♗xf5 28.exf5 ♕xf5 29.♕xe8 ♕d7=) 24...♕xb3 (24...♕e6 25.♘f5+-; 24...♕c8 25.♕xf7+ ♗g7 26.♗xh6! ♖g8 27.♕g6+ ♔h8 28.♕h5 ♗e8 (28...♕e8 29.♘g6+ ♔h7 30.♗e3++-) 29.♗xg7+ ♔xg7 30.♘f5+ ♔f8 31.♕h6+ ♔f7 32.♕h7+


8
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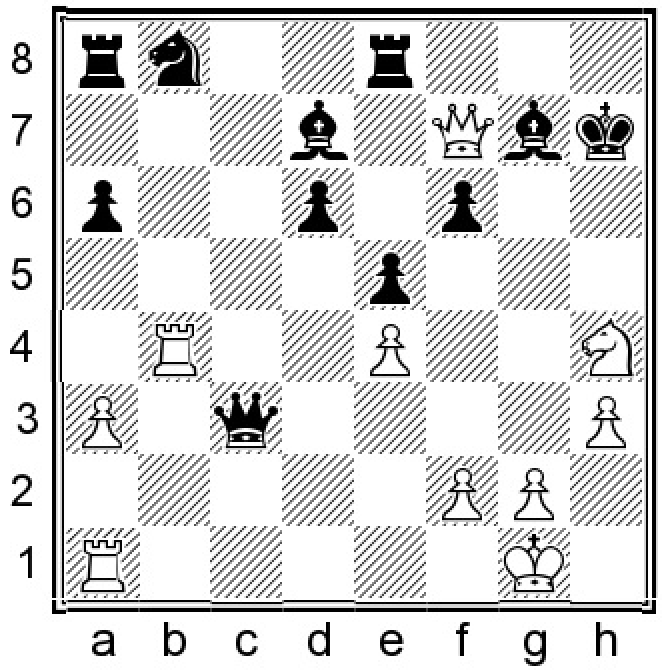
Δ Qe7) 25.♗xh6! ♗xh6 26.♖eb1 ♕a4 (RR26...♕c4 27.♖b4 ♕c3 28.♕xf7+ ♗g7



29.♘f5!! ♕xa1+ 30.♔h2 ♗xf5 31.exf5 ♕d4 32.♕h5+ ♔g8 33.♕xe8+ ♔h7 34.♖xd4 exd4 35.g4! d3 36.g5 d2 (36...fxg5 37.♕g6+ ♔h8 38.f6 ♖a7 39.fxg7+ ♖xg7 40.♕h5+ ♔g8 41.♕e8+ ♔h7 42.♕xb8+-) 37.g6+ ♔h6 38.♕e3+ ♔h5 39.♕f3+ ♔h6 40.♕f4+ ♔h5 41.♕g4+ ♔h6 42.♕h4#; 26...♕e6 27.♘f5 ♕xf5 28.exf5+- Tadic,Branko) 27.♖b4 ♕c6 28.♕xf7+ ♗g7 (28...♔h8 29.♘g6#) 29.♘f5 ♗xf5 (29...♖g8 30.♕h5+ ♗h6 31.♕xh6#) 30.exf5 e4 31.♖b7 ♖g8 32.♕h5#

24.♗xh6?!

24.exf5 ♔h7 25.♖e4!! (25.b3+-) 25...♕xe4 (25...♕d5 26.♖g4 Δ Nf3, Bh6+-) 26.♕xf7+ ♗g7 (26...♔h8 27.♘g6#) 27.♗xh6! ♖g8 28.♕g6+ ♔h8 29.♕h5 ♗e8 30.♘g6+ ♗xg6 31.fxg6 ♖e8 32.♗g5+ ♔g8 33.♕h7+ ♔f8 34.♗h6+-

24...♗xh6 25.♕xh6 f4 26.♘f5?!

26.♕g5+! ♔f8 27.♕f6 ♔g8 28.♘f5! ♗xf5 29.exf5±

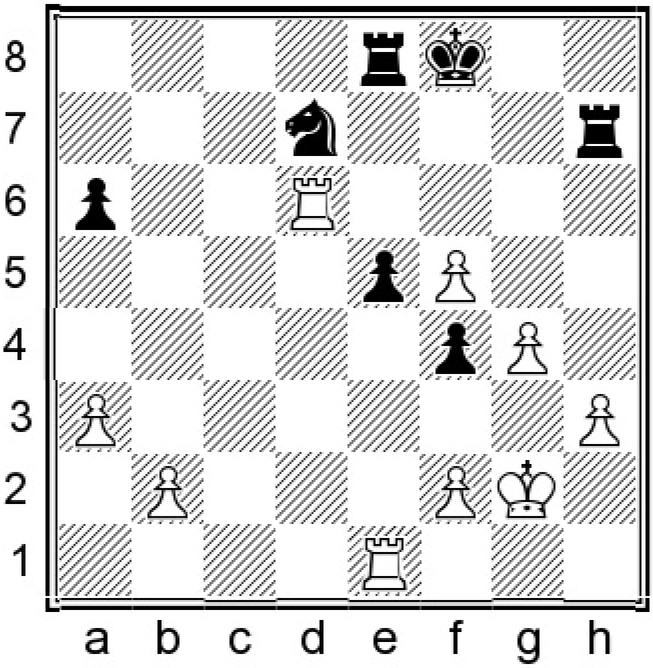
26...♗xf5 27.exf5 f6!

27...♘d7 28.♖ac1 ♕b5 29.♖ed1→

28.♕g6+ ♔f8 29.♕xf6+ ♕f7 30.♕xd6+ ♕e7 31.♖ad1 ♕xd6 32.♖xd6 ♖a7 33.g4 ♖h7?

33...fxg3! 34.fxg3 ♖b7 35.♖e2 ♘d7 36.g4 e4∞ Tadic,Branko

34.♔g2 ♘d7



⌓34...a5 35.♔f3 ♘d7 (35...♖xh3+ 36.♔e4± Δ g5) 36.g5± Tadic,Branko

35.b4! ♖c8 36.♖ed1 ♖c7 37.g5 e4 38.g6 ♖g7

RR38...♖e7 39.f6 ♘xf6 40.♖xf6+ ♔g7 41.♖xf4+- Tadic,Branko

39.h4 ♘e5 40.h5 ♘d3 41.h6 ♖gd7 42.♖xd7 ♖xd7 43.h7 ♔g7 44.f6+ ♔h8 45.♖h1 f3+ 46.♔g3 1-0

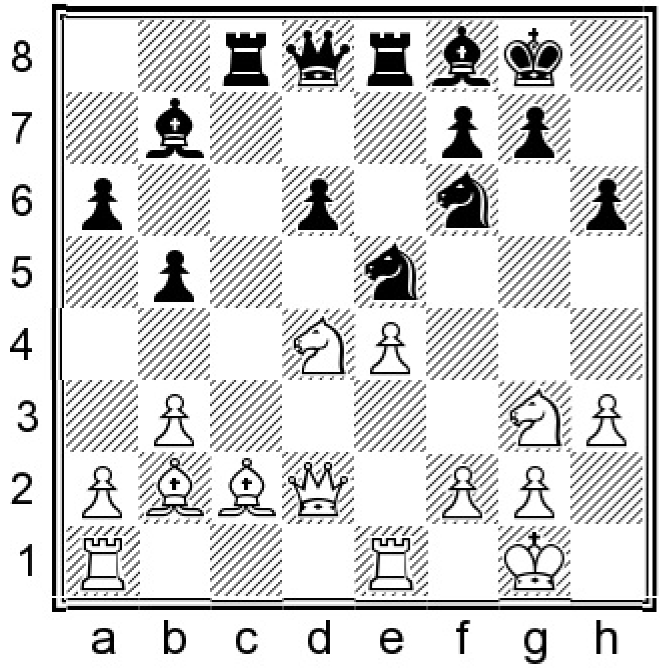
134. * C92
Sjugirov, Sanan (2663) - Vitiugov, Nikita (2727)
Riga 150/134, 2021

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♗e7 6.♖e1 b5 7.♗b3 O-O 8.d3 d6 9.c3 ♘a5 10.♗c2 c5 11.♘bd2 ♖e8 12.h3 ♗f8 13.♘f1 h6 14.d4 exd4 15.cxd4 cxd4 16.♘g3 ♗b7 17.♘xd4 ♘c4

17...♖c8 - 45/406

17...♘c6 - 114/123

18.b3 ♘e5 19.♗b2 ♖c8 20.♕d2



20.♖c1 ♘g6?!N (20...g6) 21.♘df5 ♘f4 22.♕f3 g5 (22...♘e6 23.♘xh6++-) 23.h4 ♘d7 24.♘h5 ♘e5 25.♕d1± Zhigalko,S (2572)-Przybylski,W (2321) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(134) 2021

20...♕b6N

20...♘g6

21.♘df5

21.♖ad1 d5! 22.f4 ♘c6 23.e5 ♗b4 24.♕f2 ♗xe1 25.♖xe1 ♘e4 (25...♘xd4 26.♗xd4 ♕c6 27.♗f5 ♘e4 28.♕f3↑) 26.♘xe4 dxe4 27.♗xe4↑

21...g6 22.♘e3 h5 23.♗d4 ♕d8 24.f3?!

24.♘d5!? ♘xd5 25.exd5 ♗xd5 26.♗b2 h4 27.♘e4 ♗g7 28.♖ad1∞

24...h4 25.♘gf1 ♗h6 26.♖ad1 ♗f4 27.♕f2 ♘h5 28.♘g4

28.b4 ♕g5 29.♗b3 ♖c7∓

28...♕g5 29.b4?

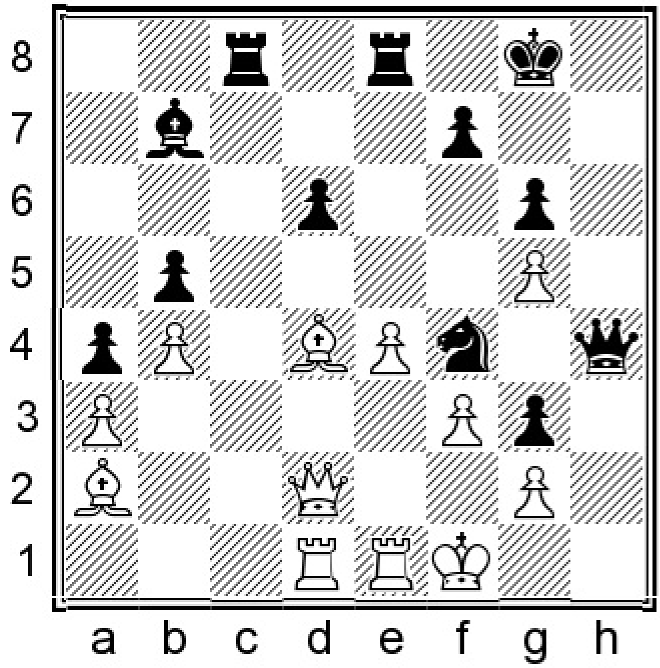
29.♗e3 ♖c3 30.♗d4 ♖ec8! 31.♗xc3 ♖xc3 32.♗b1 ♗c8 33.♘xe5 ♗xe5 34.♔h1 ♕f6∓

29...♘xg4 30.hxg4 ♗g3! 31.♘xg3 hxg3 32.♕d2 ♘f4 33.♗b3

33.♗e3 ♕h4! 34.♗xf4 ♕h2+ 35.♔f1 ♖xc2! 36.♕xc2 ♕h1+ 37.♔e2 ♕xg2+ 38.♔d3 ♕xf3+ 39.♔d2 (39.♗e3 ♗xe4+) 39...♕xf4+ 40.♖e3 g2-+

33...♕h6 34.g5 ♕h4 35.♔f1 ♖c3

35...a5! 36.a3 (36.bxa5 b4-+ Δ Ba6) 36...a4 37.♗a2



37...♖c3!! (37...♕h1+ 38.♗g1 ♘h3 39.♕d4 ♖c7 40.♖e2 ♖ce7-+) 38.♕xf4 (38.♗xc3 ♕h1#; 38.♕xc3 ♕h1+ 39.♗g1 ♕xg2#) 38...♕xf4 39.♗xc3 ♕xg5-+

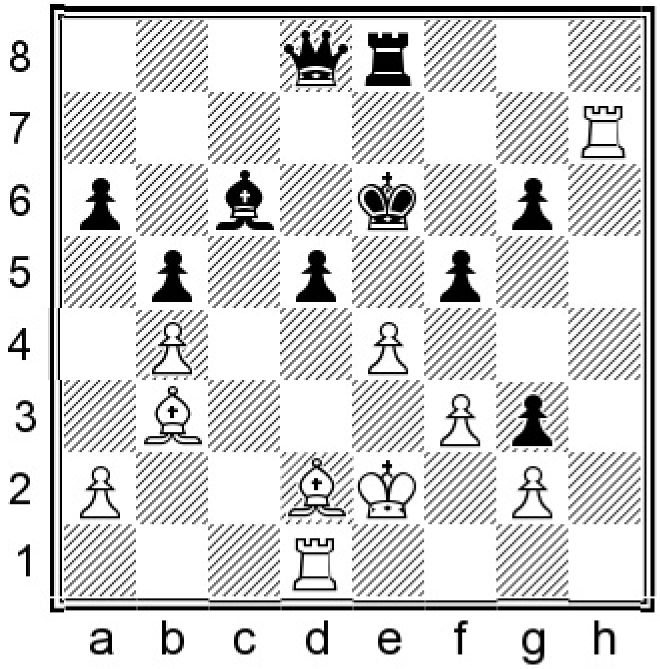
36.♕xf4 ♕xf4 37.♗xc3 ♕xg5?

37...a5! 38.♗f6 ♔f8 39.♗c2 (39.♔e2? ♗xe4 40.♖h1 ♗xf3+ 41.♔d3 ♖e3+ 42.♔c2 ♗xd1+ 43.♔xd1 ♔e8-+) 39...♖e6 Δ Rf6-+

38.♔e2!⇄ d5 39.♖h1 f6 40.♖h3 ♗c6

40...♖c8☐ 41.♗b2 (41.♗d2 ♕e5 42.♗e3 ♖c4!∞) 41...♖c4! 42.♖dh1 dxe4 43.♗xc4+ bxc4 44.♖h8+ ♔f7 45.♖8h7+ ♔g8 46.♖h8+ (46.♖xb7? exf3+ 47.gxf3 ♕d5 48.♖b8+ ♔g7 49.♖d1 ♕e6+ 50.♔f1 c3! 51.♗c1 ♕h3+ 52.♔e2 ♕g2+ 53.♔e3 g5!-+) 46...♔f7=

41.♖dh1 ♔f7 42.♖h7+ ♔e6 43.♖d1 f5 44.♗d2 ♕d8



44...f4 45.♖c1 ♔d6 46.♖f7 ♖xe4+ 47.fxe4 ♕h5+ 48.♔d3 dxe4+ 49.♔c2 e3 50.♗c3+-

45.♗e3?

45.♖c1! ♗a8 (45...♔d6 46.♗f4++-; 45...♕d6 46.♖xc6! ♕xc6 47.♗xd5++-) 46.♔d3! fxe4+ 47.fxe4 ♖f8 48.♖a7+-

45...♔f6 46.♖c1 ♕d6 47.♖a7 fxe4 48.♗d4+ ♔g5 49.f4+ ♔g4

49...♔xf4 50.♖xa6 ♖c8 51.♖f1+ ♔g5 52.a3∞

50.♖f7 e3 51.♗d1 ♔h5?

51...♕e6! 52.♖f6 ♕e4-+

52.♖h7+?

52.♔f3! g5 53.♗c2!+-

52...♔g4 53.♖f7 ♔h5 54.♖h7+

54.♔f3+-

54...♔g4 55.♗xe3 d4

55...♔f5! 56.♗c2+ ♔f6 57.♗b3 ♗d7-+ (57...♕xf4 58.♖xc6+ ♔g5 59.♖c3 d4 60.♖c5+ ♔g4 61.♗d1 dxe3 62.♔e1+ e2 63.♗xe2+ ♖xe2+ 64.♔xe2 ♕f2+ 65.♔d3 ♕xg2-+)

56.♔f1+ ♔f5 57.♖xc6! ♕xc6 58.♖f7+ ♔e6

58...♔e4!? 59.♗f3+ ♔d3 60.♗xc6 ♖xe3∞

59.♗b3+ ♕c4+ 60.♗xc4+ bxc4 61.♖c7 dxe3 62.♖xc4= ♔d5 63.♖c5+ ♔d4 64.♔e2 ♖f8 65.♔f3 ♖e8

66.♔e2 ♖f8 67.♔f3 ♖e8 1/2-1/2

D00-D24

135. D02
Xiong, Jeffery (2700) - Shankland, Samuel L (2714)
USA (ch) 150/135, 2021

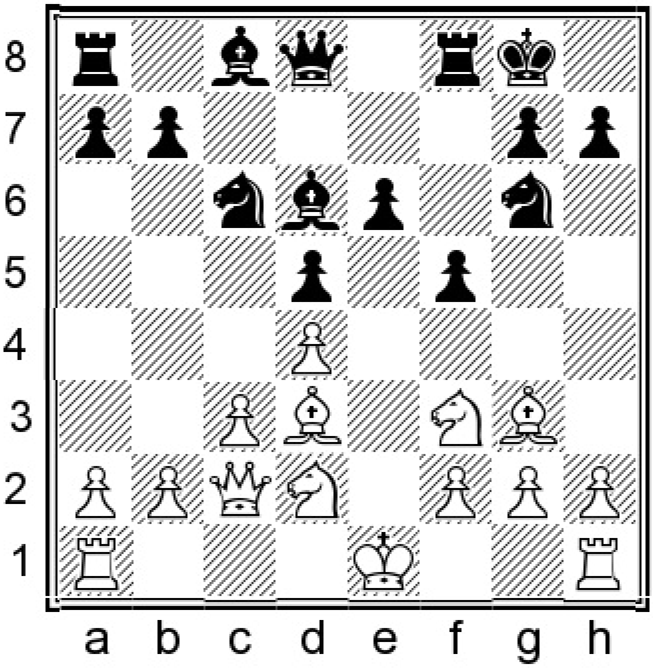
1.♘f3 c5 2.c3 d5 3.d4 e6 4.♗f4 ♗d6 5.e3 ♘c6 6.♗g3 ♘ge7

6...♘f6 - 130/ 138

7.♘bd2 cxd4 8.exd4 O-O 9.♗d3 ♘g6

⌓9...f6

10.♕c2 f5



11.♗xd6N

11.O-O-O?!

11...♕xd6 12.O-O ♗d7 13.♖fe1 ♖ae8 14.♗b5 ♘b8

14...♘b4 15.cxb4 ♗xb5 16.a4 ♖c8 17.♕b3 ♗d7 18.b5±

15.♗f1 ♘c6 16.♗b5

16.c4!?

16...♘b8 17.a4 a6?!

17...♖e7

18.♗f1 ♘c6 19.b4 ♘d8?!

19...♖c8; 19...h6

20.b5 axb5 21.axb5 ♘f7 22.c4 e5?!

22...dxc4 23.♘xc4 ♕c7 24.♕b3±

23.c5 ♕f6 24.dxe5 ♘fxe5 25.♕a4

25.♕b3!?

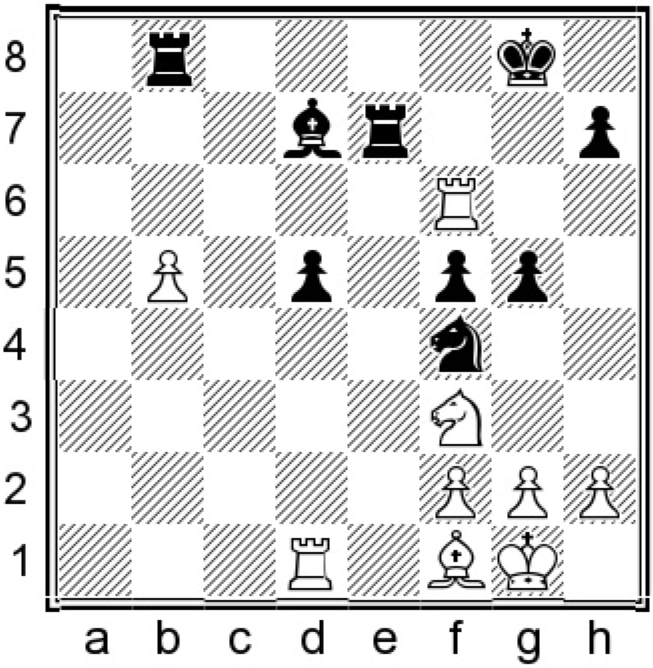
25...♘xf3+

25...f4!?

26.♘xf3 ♖e4 27.♕a7 ♗c8 28.♖ed1 ♘f4

28...♘e5 29.♘xe5 ♖xe5 30.♖ac1 ♕f7 31.♕a5+-

29.♖ac1 ♖e7 30.♕b8 g5 31.c6 bxc6 32.♖xc6+- ♗d7 33.♖xf6 ♖xb8



34.♘d4!

34.♘xg5? ♔g7 35.♖a6 ♗xb5 36.♗xb5 ♖xb5 37.g3 ♘e2+ 38.♔g2±

34...♖e5 35.♖d6 ♖b7 36.b6 ♖e7 37.g3 ♘g6 38.♗g2 1-0

136. D02
Sevian, Samuel (2654) - Yu, Yangyi (2704)
Riga 150/136, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.♗f4 ♘f6 3.e3 ♗g4 4.♘f3 e6 5.h3 ♗h5 6.c4 ♗d6

6...c6; 6...dxc4; 6...♗b4+

7.♗xd6 cxd6 8.♘c3 dxc4 9.♗xc4 O-O 10.♗e2N

10.O-O

10...♕b6

10...d5 11.g4 ♗g6 12.♘e5 ♘e4 13.h4 ♘xc3 14.bxc3 ♗e4 15.f3 f6 16.♘d3 ♗xd3 17.♗xd3 ♘c6=; 10...♗xf3 11.♗xf3 d5 12.O-O ♘c6=

11.♕d2

11.♕b3!? ♕xb3 12.axb3

11...♘c6 12.O-O

12.g4!? ♗g6 13.♘h4

12...♖fc8

12...♘e7!?

13.♖fc1 ♗g6 14.♘h4 ♘e4

14...♗e4=

15.♕e1 ♘xc3

15...♕xb2? 16.♘xg6! ♘xc3 (16...♘xd4 17.♘e7+ ♔f8 18.♘xc8 ♘xc3 19.♗f1 ♘ce2+ 20.♗xe2 ♘xe2+ 21.♔h2 ♘xc1 22.♖xc1+-) 17.♖xc3 hxg6 18.♖b3 ♕c2 19.♗d3+-

16.bxc3 ♗e4 17.f3

17.c4!?

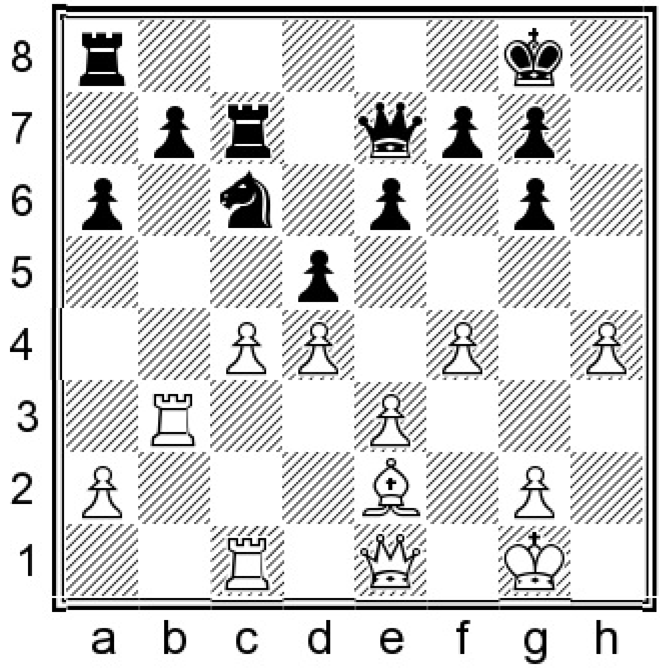
17...♗g6 18.♘xg6 hxg6= 19.♖ab1 ♕c7 20.f4 ♕e7 21.h4 ♖c7 22.♖b5

22.♕g3!? Δ Kf2, h5

22...d5 23.c4□ a6

23...♖ac8 24.c5 b6 25.♖cb1 (25.cxb6 axb6 26.♖cb1 ♕a3=) 25...bxc5 26.♖xc5 ♘b8 27.♖xc7 ♕xc7=

24.♖b3



24...dxc4! 25.♖xc4 ♖ac8 26.♖bc3 ♘a5 27.♖xc7 ♖xc7 28.♕c1 ♖xc3 29.♕xc3 ♘c6 30.♗xa6 bxa6 31.♕xc6 ♕a3 1/2-1/2

137. D02
Kamsky, Gata (2662) - Topalov, Veselin (2730)
Cap d'Agde (rapid) 150/137, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 d5 3.♗f4 ♗f5 4.e3 e6 5.♗d3 ♗xd3

5...♘e4 - 128/130

6.♕xd3 c6 7.O-O ♗d6 8.♗xd6 ♕xd6 9.c4 ♘bd7 10.♘c3 O-O 11.♖ad1 a6 12.e4 dxe4 13.♘xe4 ♘xe4N

13...♕f4

14.♕xe4 ♖ad8 15.♖d2 ♖fe8 16.h3 ♕c7 17.♖fd1 ♘f6

17...h6 18.♕e3 (18.g4 ♘f8 19.h4 f5 (19...♘g6!?) 20.gxf5 exf5 21.♕xf5 ♖d6⩱→) 18...♘f8 19.b3 (19.♘e5 ♘d7=) 19...♘g6 20.g3 ♖d6=

18.♕e5 ♖d6

18...♖e7!?

19.a4

19.b3 ♖ed8 20.g3 h6 21.♔g2 ♖6d7=

19...a5 20.c5 ♖d7 21.♕xc7

21.♕e2!?

21...♖xc7 22.♘e5 ♘d5 23.♘c4 ♖a8 24.♖d3 ♔f8 25.♖b3 ♔e7 26.h4 g6 27.g3 h5 28.♔g2 ♔f8 29.♖e1 ♘e7 30.♖e4 ♘f5 31.♖d3 ♖d8?! 32.♘xa5 ♖a8 33.b4 ♘e7! 34.♖f3! ♘d5

⌓34...♔g8

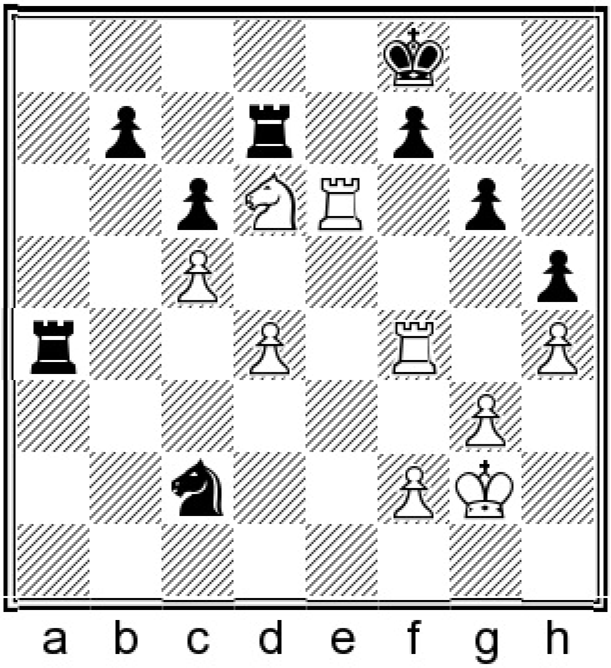
35.♖xe6! ♘xb4 36.♘c4 ♘c2

⌓36...♔g7

37.♖f4 ♖xa4

37...♘xd4 38.♖xg6 ♖xa4 39.♘d6 ♘b3 40.♖f5 ♘xc5 41.♖gf6 ♖a5 (41...♘e4 42.♖xf7+ ♖xf7 43.♖xf7+ ♔g8 44.♖f4+-) 42.♖xf7+ ♖xf7 43.♘xf7+-

38.♘d6 ♖d7



39.♖ef6?!

39.♖e8+! ♔g7 40.♖e2 ♘a3 (40...♖a2 41.♖f3±) 41.♘e8+ ♔f8 42.♘f6 ♖d8 43.♘h7+ ♔g7 44.♖e7 ♔xh7 45.♖fxf7+ ♔g8 46.♖g7+ ♔f8 47.♖ef7+ ♔e8 48.♖xb7 ♔f8 49.♖h7 ♔g8 50.♖bg7+ ♔f8 51.♖xg6 ♖axd4 52.♖xc6±

39...♖xd4 40.♖xf7+ ♖xf7 41.♖xf7+ ♔g8 42.♖xb7 ♘e1+! 43.♔f1 ♘d3 44.♖c7 ♘xc5 45.♖xc6 ♘d7?

45...♔g7=

46.♘b5 ♖g4 47.♔g2! ♘e5 48.♖e6?

48.♖c8+ ♔g7 49.f4 ♘d3 50.♖c4 ♘e1+ 51.♔h3 ♘f3 52.♘c3 ♘d2 53.♖c7+ ♔f8 54.♔g2+-

48...♘d3 49.♖e3

49.♖d6

49...♖b4 50.♘c7 ♖d4= 51.♘e6 ♖d5 52.♘g5 ♘e5 53.f4 ♖d2+ 54.♔f1 ♘g4 55.♖e6 ♔g7 56.♖e7+ ♔g8 57.♖e8+ ♔g7 58.♖e2 ♖xe2 59.♔xe2 ♘h6 60.♘e6+ ♔f6 61.♘d4 ♘g4 62.♔f3 ♘h6 63.♘c2 ♘f5 64.♘e3 ♘d6 65.g4 hxg4+ 66.♔xg4 ♘f7 67.h5 gxh5+ 68.♔xh5 ♘d6 69.f5 ♘xf5 1/2-1/2

138. ** D02
Sevian, Samuel (2654) - So, Wesley (2778)
USA (ch) 150/138, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 d5 3.♗f4 c5 4.e3 e6 5.c3 ♗d6 6.♗b5+

6.♗g3 - 140/143

6...♘c6 7.♗xc6+ bxc6 8.♗xd6 ♕xd6 9.♕a4 O-O 10.♕a3 ♘e4 11.♘fd2N

11.♘bd2

11...e5!N

11...cxd4?! - 150/(138) 12.♘xe4 ♕xa3 13.♘xa3 dxe4 14.cxd4 ♖b8 - 150/(138) (14...♗a6N 15.♖c1 e5? 16.♖xc6 ♖ac8?! 17.♖xc8 ♖xc8 18.♔d2 exd4 19.exd4+- Bluebaum,M (2639)-Makhnev,D (2513) chess. com (Int.-blitz)150/(138) 2021) 15.b3± Aronian,L (2781)-So,W (2770) chess24.com (Int.-m2/3-rapid) 150/(138) 2021

12.♘xe4 dxe4 13.♕xc5 ♕g6!

13...♕b8 14.b3 exd4 15.cxd4 ♗a6 16.♘d2±; 13...♕xc5 14.dxc5 ♗e6 15.♘d2 f5 16.O-O-O±

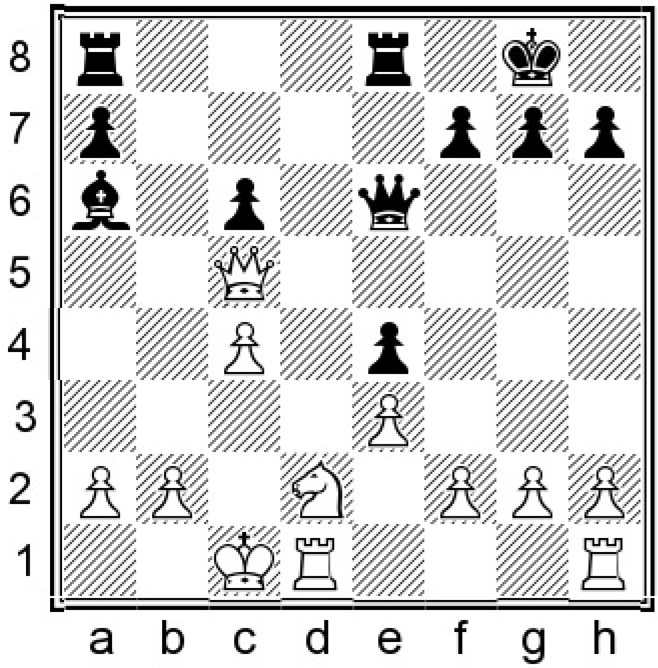
14.♘d2 exd4?!

14...♕xg2 15.O-O-O ♕xf2∞

15.♕xd4! ♖e8 16.O-O-O ♗a6 17.c4! ♕e6

17...h5!?

18.♕c5



18.b3

18...♖ad8! 19.b3

19.♔b1 ♕g4!; 19.♖hg1!?

19...♗c8! 20.♘b1

20.♕g5!?

20...♕f6! 21.♕a5 h5

⌓21...♗g4 22.♖xd8 ♖xd8=∞

22.♖d2?!

22.♘c3

22...♖xd2 23.♕xd2 ♕g5 24.♖g1

24.g3 ♗g4=

24...♕e5

⌓24...♖d8 25.♕e1 ♕f6=

25.h3 ♕h2 26.♕d1

26.♕e1!? ♖e6

26...♕e5 27.♕d4

27.♔c2!?

27...♕h2 28.♕d1 ♕e5 29.♕d4 ♕h2 30.♕d1 1/2-1/2

139. D15
Gozzoli, Yannick (2602) - Kamsky, Gata (2662)
Cap d'Agde (rapid) 150/139, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.♘f3 a6 5.c5 g6 6.♗f4 ♗g7 7.g3

7.h3 - 137/ 134

7...O-O 8.♗g2 ♗g4N

8...♘bd7; 8...♗f5

9.O-O

9.♕b3!?

9...♗xf3 10.♗xf3 ♘bd7 11.♕b3 b6?!

11...e5! 12.dxe5 (12.♗xe5 ♘xe5 13.dxe5 ♘d7 14.e6 (14.♕xb7 ♘xe5↑) 14...♘xc5 (14...fxe6 15.♕xb7 ♘e5 16.♗g2 g5↑) 15.exf7+ ♖xf7 16.♕c2 ♕b6↑) 12...♘xc5 13.exf6 ♘xb3 14.fxg7 ♘xa1 15.gxf8=Q+ ♕xf8 16.♖xa1∞

12.cxb6 ♕xb6 13.e3

13.♖fd1!?⩲

13...♖fc8

13...♕xb3 14.axb3 h6 15.h4±

14.♖fc1⩲ e6

14...h6 15.h4⩲

15.♘a4 ♕a7?

15...♕xb3 16.axb3 a5⩲; 15...♕d8⩲

16.♖c2± h6

16...c5!? 17.dxc5 ♖c6

17.♖ac1 g5 18.♗d6 ♘e8 19.♗a3 ♖ab8 20.♕d3 ♕b7 21.♗e2 ♕b5

21...♖c7!?

22.b3 ♗f8?! 23.♗xf8 ♘xf8 24.♕d2 ♕b7 25.♘c5 ♕a7 26.♘xa6+- ♖b6 27.♘b4

27.♘c5!?

27...♕a8 28.♘d3 ♘d7 29.♘c5

29.h4!?; 29.b4!?

29...♘df6

⌓29...♘xc5 30.♖xc5 ♘f6

30.♗d3

30.h4!?→

30...♘d6 31.a4 ♖bb8 32.b4 ♖e8 33.a5 ♖bc8 34.♕c3 ♕a7 35.♕b2 ♕a8 36.♕a3 ♔g7 37.♘a4 ♘d7 38.♖c3 g4 39.♘b6

39.♕b2!?

39...♘xb6 40.axb6 ♕xa3 41.♖xa3 ♖b8 42.♖xc6 ♘c8 43.♖a6 ♖d8?!

43...♖e7

44.♔g2

44.b5!?

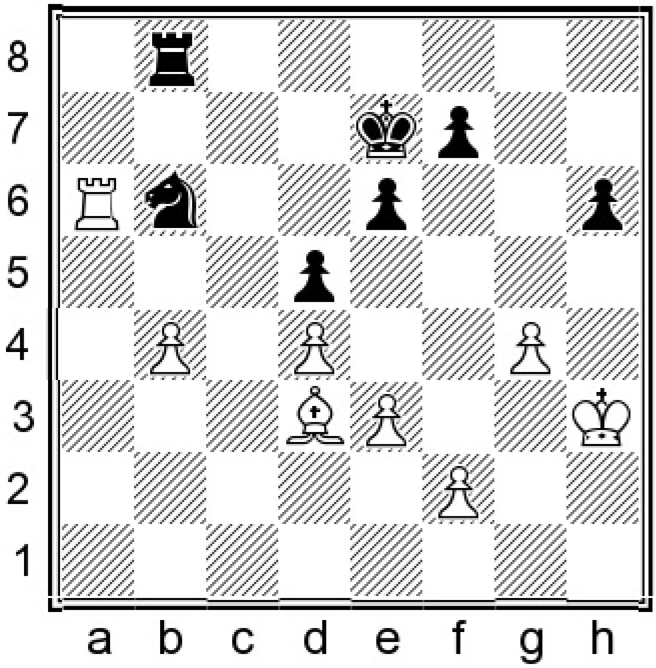
44...♔f6 45.h3 gxh3+ 46.♔xh3 ♖e8?!

46...♖d7 47.f4 ♖db7 48.g4

47.g4 ♖e7 48.♖c7?!

48.f4 ♖eb7 49.b5

48...♘xb6 49.♖xe7 ♔xe7



50.♖a7+! ♔f6 51.♗a6 ♘a4

⌓51...♘c4 52.♖b7 ♖a8 53.b5

52.♖b7☐

52.b5?? ♘c3=; 52.♗b7 ♘c3 53.♗c6 ♘e4!=

52...♖a8 53.b5 ♘b2 54.♖c7 ♘c4 55.♖c8?!

55.e4

55...♖xc8 56.♗xc8 ♘b6?

56...h5

57.♗b7+- ♔g5?!

57...h5

58.f4+ ♔g6 59.e4 dxe4 60.♗xe4+ ♔g7 61.♔h4 f6 62.♔h5 ♘c8 63.f5 exf5 64.♗xf5 ♘b6 65.♗e6 ♔f8 66.♔xh6 ♔e7 67.♗f5 ♘c4 68.♔h5

68.♔g7!? ♘b6 69.♗e4

68...♘b6 69.♔h4

69.♔g6

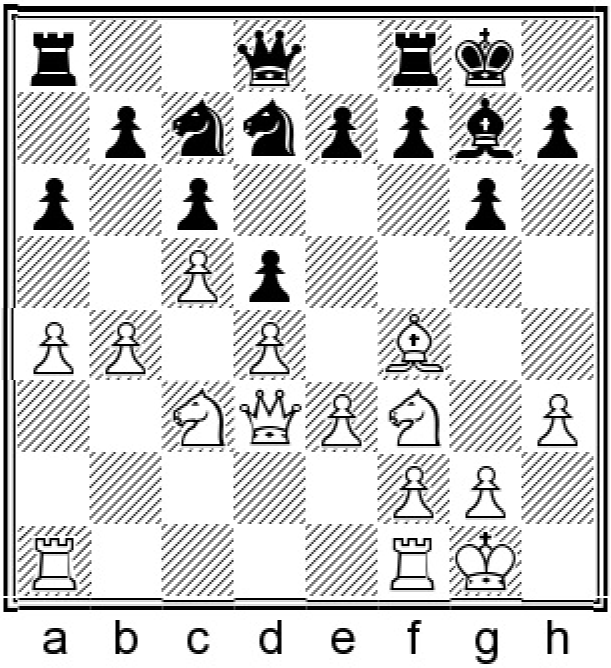
69...♔d6 70.♗e4 ♘a4 71.♗f3

71.♗c6

71...♘b6 72.♔g3 ♔e6 73.♔f4 ♔d6 74.♔f5 ♔e7 75.♔e4 ♔d6 76.♔d3 ♔c7 77.♔c3 ♔d6 78.♔b4 ♘c8 79.♔a5 ♔c7 80.♔a6 ♘b6 81.♗e4 ♘d7 82.♔a7 ♘b6 83.♗f5 ♘d5 84.♗e6 ♘b6 85.d5 ♘c4 86.♗f5 1-0

140. D15
Nenezic, Marko (2531) - Zubov, Alexander (2598)
chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/140, 2021

1.♘f3 d5 2.d4 ♘f6 3.c4 c6 4.♘c3 a6 5.c5 g6 6.♗f4 ♗g7 7.h3 O-O 8.e3 ♗f5 9.♗d3 ♗xd3 10.♕xd3 ♘bd7 11.O-O ♘e8 12.b4 ♘c7 13.a4N



13.♖fe1

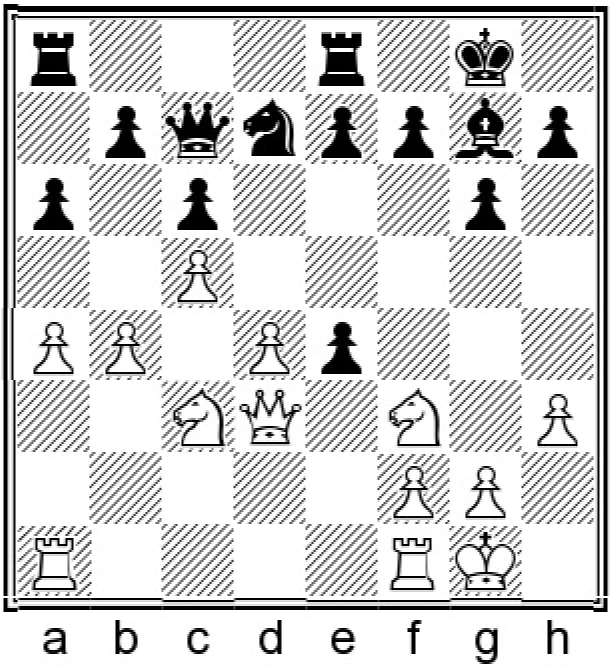
13...♖e8!= 14.♗xc7

14.♖fd1 e5 15.♗xe5 ♘xe5 16.♘xe5 ♗xe5 17.dxe5 ♖xe5 18.♕d4 ♕f6 19.♘e2 ♔g7=

14...♕xc7 15.e4?!

15.♕c2 e5 16.♖fb1 exd4 17.exd4 ♘f8 18.g3 (18.♘e2 ♘e6 19.♕d3 ♕e7∓) 18...♘e6 19.♕d3 ♕d8 20.b5 ♕f6 21.bxc6 bxc6 22.♘e2 ♘g5 23.♔g2 ♘e4 24.♖a2=

15...dxe4?!



15...a5! 16.exd5 axb4 17.dxc6 ♕xc6 18.♘e4 ♖ed8 19.♕e3 (19.♖ab1 ♖xa4 20.♕b3 ♘f8 21.♖bd1 ♖a6! ∓) 19...♘f8 20.♖fd1 ♖xa4 21.♖ab1 ♕d5∓

16.♕xe4?

16.♘xe4 ♖ad8 17.♕c4 ♘f8 18.♖ad1 ♘e6 19.♖fe1 a5 20.bxa5 ♕xa5 21.♘c3 ♘f4 22.♖b1 ♕c7 23.♖e3 ♕d7 24.♖b4 ♖a8 25.♕f1 ♖a7 26.g3 ♘e6 27.♕c4 ♖d8 28.♖e4 ♗f6 29.♔g2 ♘g5 30.♘xg5 ♗xg5 31.♖e2 ♗h6 32.♘e4 ♕d5 33.♕xd5 ♖xd5 34.f4 ♗g7 35.♖d2 h6 36.♘c3 ♖d7 37.g4 f5 38.gxf5 gxf5 39.♘e2 ♔f7 40.♘g3 e6=

16...a5∓ 17.♖ab1 axb4 18.♖xb4 ♘xc5 19.dxc5 ♗xc3 20.♖b3 ♗f6 21.♖fb1 ♖a7 22.♖b6 ♖ea8 23.♖1b4 ♕d7 24.g4 ♖xa4 25.g5?

25.♖xb7 ♖xb4 26.♖xb4 ♖a1+ 27.♔g2 h6∓

25...♖xb4-+ 26.♕xb4?

26.♖xb4 ♗c3 27.♖b1 ♕xh3 28.♕f4 ♖a1 29.♖xa1 ♗xa1 30.♘d2 ♕d7-+

26...♕xh3 27.gxf6 ♕xf3 0-1

141. D15
Muratovic, Efim (2349) - Szuhanek, Ranko (2437)
Srbija 150/141, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.♘f3 c6 3.c4 ♘f6 4.e3 a6 5.♘c3 b5 6.cxd5 cxd5 7.♗d3 ♗b7 8.O-O e6 9.♗d2 ♘bd7 10.a4

10.♘e2 - 99/264

10...b4 11.♘a2 a5 12.♘c1 ♗d6 13.♘b3 O-O 14.♕e2 e5!?N

14...♘e4 15.♖fc1 f5 16.♗b5 ♘df6 17.♘e5 ♗xe5 18.dxe5 ♘g4 19.f3 ♘xd2 20.♕xd2 ♘xe5 21.f4 ♘c4 22.♕d4 ♕e7=

15.♗b5?

15.dxe5 ♘xe5 16.♘xe5 (16.♖fc1 ♘xf3+ 17.♕xf3 ♕e7 18.♘d4 g6 19.♗b5 ♘e4 20.♗e1 ♕e5 21.♕h3 ♖ac8 22.♖xc8 ♖xc8 23.♖d1=) 16...♗xe5 17.♖fd1 (17.♗e1 ♗c6 18.f3 ♕e8 19.♗b5 ♗xb5 20.axb5 a4 21.♘c5 a3 22.♗xb4 ♗xb2 23.♘a6 ♗xa1 24.♗xf8 ♗d4 25.♗xa3 ♕xe3+ 26.♕xe3 ♗xe3+ 27.♔h1 d4∞) 17...♗c7 18.♗e1 ♕d6 19.g3 ♗b6 20.♖ac1 h5⇄

15...e4 16.♘h4

16.♘g5 ♗c8 17.♖fc1 ♘b6 18.f3 ♖a7! 19.♔h1 h6 20.fxe4 dxe4 21.♘h3 ♕e7 22.♘c5 ♗g4 23.♕f1 ♘fd5-+

16...g6∓ 17.g3

17.♖ac1 ♕e7 18.f4 ♘b6 19.♘c5 ♗c8 20.♗e1 ♖a7 21.♗g3 ♖c7 22.h3 ♗xc5 23.dxc5 ♖xc5∓

17...♕e7

17...♘b6 18.♘c5 ♗c8 19.f3 ♕e7 20.fxe4 ♘xe4 21.♘xe4 dxe4 22.♘g2 ♗d7 23.b3 ♖fc8∓

18.♖fc1 ♕e6

18...♘b6 19.♘g2 ♗c8 20.♖c6 ♗g4 21.♕e1 ♘c4 22.♘f4 ♘xd2 23.♕xd2 g5 24.♘g2 ♔g7∓

19.f4

19.♗c6 ♗a6 20.♗b5 ♗b7 21.♗c6 ♖fb8 22.♗xb7 ♖xb7 23.♖c6 ♖b6 24.♖ac1 g5 25.♘g2 ♔g7 26.♕f1 h6 27.♘e1 h5∓

19...exf3 20.♕xf3?!

20.♘xf3 ♘e4 21.♗e1 h5 22.♖c2 ♕e7 23.♖ac1 ♘df6 24.♘fd2 ♖fc8 25.♖xc8+ ♗xc8 26.♘xe4 ♘xe4 27.♗c6 ♗a6 28.♕d1 ♖d8 29.♗xd5 ♕g5 30.♗xe4 ♕xe3+ 31.♗f2 ♕xe4-+

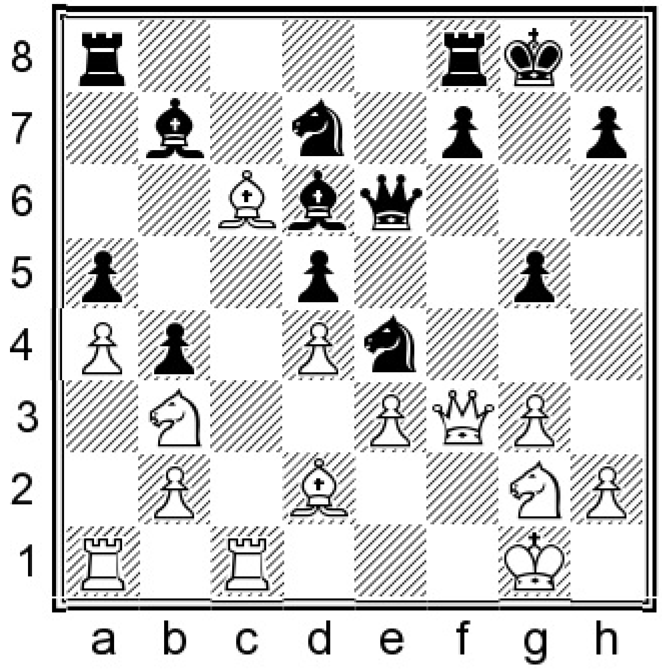
20...♘e4 21.♘g2

21.♗c6 ♗xc6 (21...♗xg3?? 22.♗xd7±) 22.♖xc6 ♖ac8 23.♖xc8 ♖xc8 24.♕d1 ♘df6 25.♘xa5 ♘g4 26.♘b7 ♘gf2 27.♕e2 ♖c2 28.♘f3 ♗xg3-+

21...g5

21...♘b6 22.♘f4 ♕f5 23.♗e1 ♘c4 24.♕e2 ♖fc8-+

22.♗c6

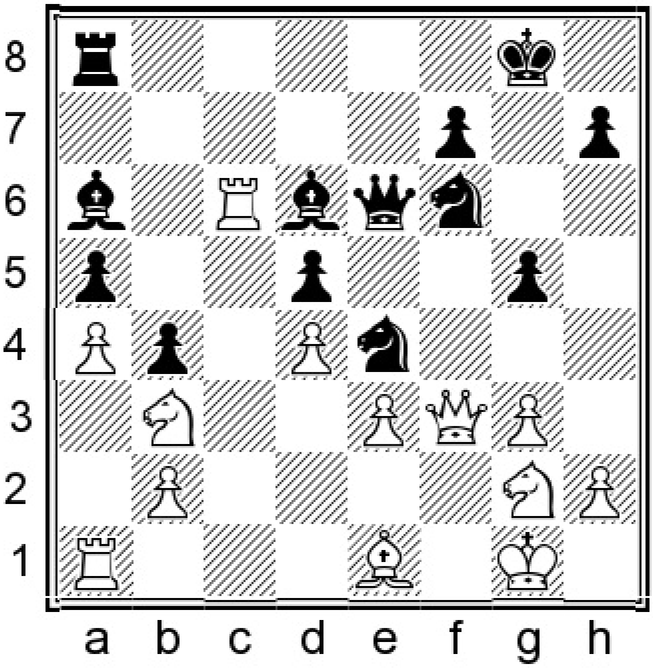


22.♘e1 ♘b6 23.♘d3 ♘c4 24.♗e1 g4 25.♕e2 h5 26.♘f4 ♕f5 27.♘d2 ♗xf4 28.gxf4 ♘exd2 29.♗xd2 ♕e4 30.b3 ♖ac8!-+

22...♗a6!

22...♗xc6 23.♖xc6 ♖fc8 24.♖ac1 ♘df6 25.♗e1 ♔g7 26.♖xc8 ♖xc8 27.♖xc8 ♕xc8 28.♕e2 h5 29.♘xa5 h4 30.gxh4 ♘g4 31.♗g3 ♗xg3 32.hxg3 ♘xg3 33.♕e1 ♘e4 34.hxg5 ♕c7 35.♘f4 ♕c2 (35...♕xa5-+) 36.♘g2 ♕xb2-+

23.♗xa8 ♖xa8 24.♗e1 ♘df6 25.♖c6



25...g4?!

25...♕h3! 26.♘f4 (26.♖xd6 ♘g4 27.♖xa6 ♖xa6 28.♕xg4 (28.♖c1 ♕xh2+ 29.♔f1 ♖f6) 28...♕xg4 29.♘c5 ♖h6-+; 26.♖xa6 ♖xa6 27.♘d2 ♘g4 28.♘xe4 dxe4 29.♕xe4 ♗e7! 30.♔f1 ♖e6 31.♕a8+ ♗f8-+) 26...gxf4 27.exf4 ♗c8 28.f5 ♗xf5-+

26.♕d1 ♘g5 27.♘c5

27.♕c2 ♘fe4 28.♘f4 ♕f5 29.♖xd6 ♘f3+ 30.♔g2 ♗f1+ 31.♔xf1 ♘xg3+ 32.hxg3 ♕xc2-+

27...♘h3+ 28.♔h1 ♕f5 29.♘f4 ♗xc5-+ 30.♖xa6?!

30.dxc5 ♕e4+ 31.♘g2 ♗f1 32.♕d2 d4 33.♖xf6 dxe3 34.♖xf1 exd2 35.♗xd2 ♕c6 36.♖ac1 ♖e8-+

30...♖xa6 31.dxc5 ♕e4+ 32.♘g2 ♕c4 0-1

142. D17
Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2762) - Korobov, Anton (2685)
Struga 150/142, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.♘f3 dxc4 5.a4 ♗f5 6.♘e5 ♘bd7 7.♘xc4 ♘b6 8.♘e5 a5 9.♖g1

9.f3 - 134/128

9...♘fd7 10.e4N

10.♘xd7

10...♗g6 11.♘xg6 hxg6 12.♗g5 ♕c7

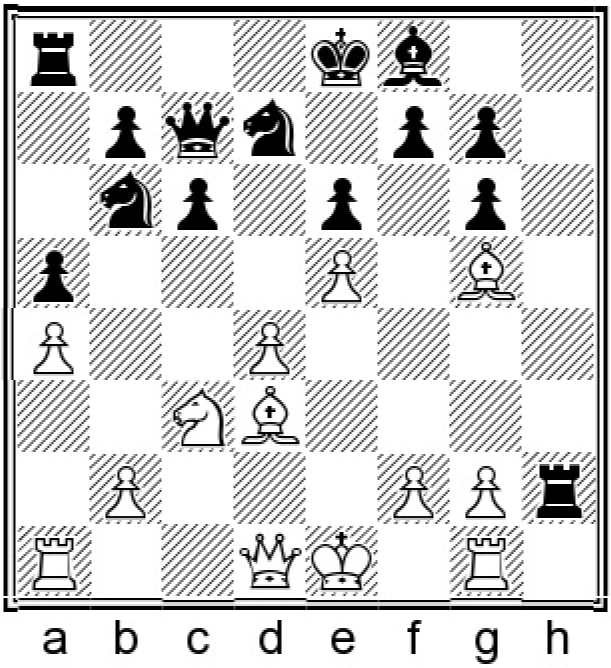
12...♖xh2?! 13.e5 ♕c8 (13...♕c7 14.e6! ♘f6 (14...fxe6?! 15.♕g4 e5 16.O-O-O!±→) 15.♕f3±) 14.♕b3=∞→

12...♕b8!?

13.e5 e6

13...f6!?

14.♗d3 ♖xh2



⌓14...♗b4

15.♕g4! [Δ Qe6] **15...♗e7**

15...♗b4 16.♗xg6!

16.♗xe7 ♔xe7 17.♕g5+! ♔f8 18.♗xg6 ♖h6!

18...♖h8?! 19.O-O-O! fxg6 20.♖h1 ♔f7 21.♘e4 ♖xh1 22.♖xh1 ♘c4 23.♕f4+ ♔e7 24.♖h7 ♖g8 (24...♕b6? 25.♖xg7+ ♔d8 26.♘c5! ♕xb2+ 27.♔d1 ♘cxe5 28.dxe5+-) 25.♘f6!±

19.♗c2 ♕d8

19...c5!? 20.O-O-O (20.♘b5?! ♕d8) 20...cxd4 21.♖xd4 ♕xe5 22.♕d2∞

20.♕g3 ♕h4 21.♕e3= ♕g4

21...♕e7!?

22.♗d1 ♕g6 23.♗b3

23.♗e2 ♕c2 24.f4 ♕xb2 25.♔f2 ♕c2∞

23...♕g4 24.♗d1 ♕g6 25.♗b3 ♕g4 26.♗d1 ♕g6 27.♗b3 ♕g4 1/2-1/2

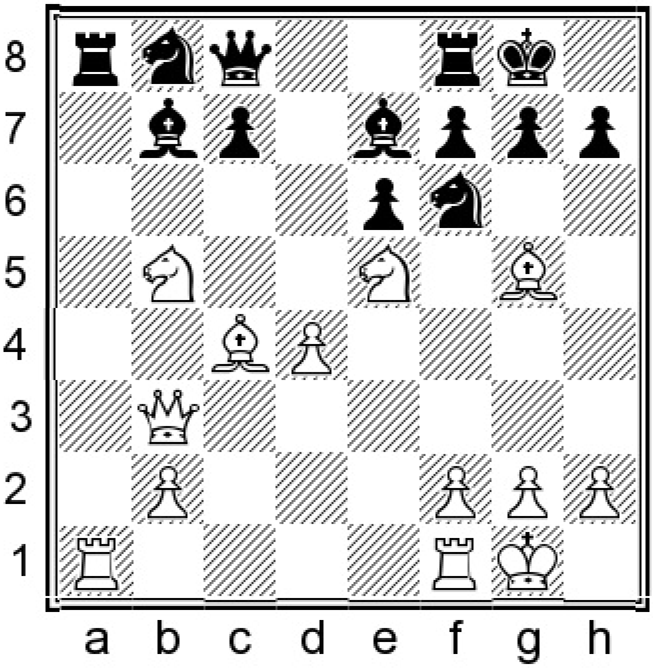
143. D21
Yakubboev, Nodirbek (2604) - Nisipeanu, Liviu Dieter (2657)
Sharjah 150/143, 2021

1.c4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘f3 dxc4 4.e4 b5 5.a4 ♗b7 6.axb5 ♗xe4 7.♗xc4 ♘f6 8.♘c3 ♗b7 9.O-O ♗e7 10.♘e5

10.♕e2 O-O (10...♗xf3 11.♕xf3 ♘bd7 12.d5 e5 13.♗b3 O-O 14.♗c2±; 10...♘bd7 11.♖d1 O-O 12.♘e5± - 11...Nbd7) 11.♖d1 (11.♘e5 - 10.Ne5) 11...♘d5 (11...c6 12.bxc6 ♘xc6 13.d5 exd5 14.♘xd5±; 11...♘bd7 12.♘e5 ♘b6 13.♗d3 ♘bd5 14.♗b1± ♕c8 15.♖d3→) 12.♘e5 ♘d7 (12...c6 13.♘xd5 cxd5 14.♗d3± - 70/359) 13.♘xd5 (13.♘c6 ♗xc6 14.bxc6 ♘7f6 15.♗a6 ♖b8 16.♗b7 a5 Δ Bb4) 13...exd5 14.♗d3±

10...O-O 11.♕e2N

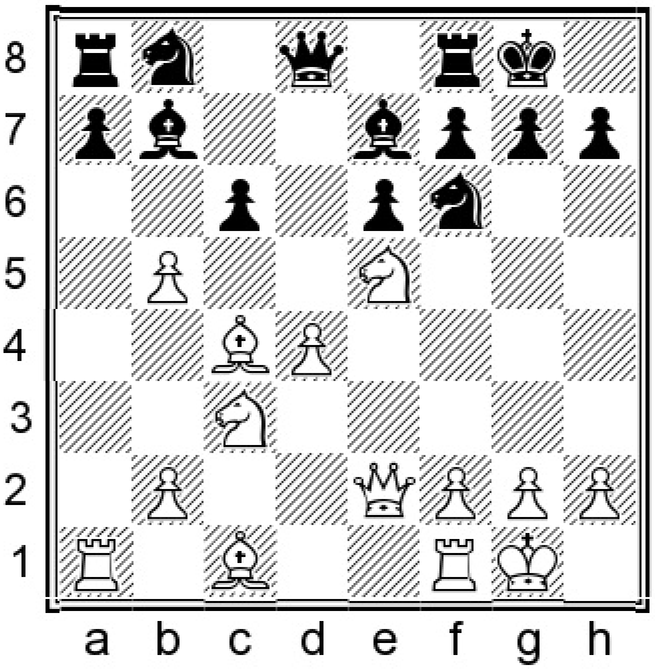
11.♗e3 a6 (11...♘d5 12.♕h5 a6 (12...g6 13.♕h3→ Δ♘b6 14.♘xf7! ♖xf7 15.♗xe6 ♕e8 16.f4± Δ f5) 13.♘xd5 ♗xd5 14.♗d3 g6 15.♕g4 axb5 16.♗h6 ♖xa1 (16...♖e8? 17.♘xg6!+-) 17.♖xa1 ♘c6 18.♗xf8 ♕xf8 19.♗xb5±) 12.♕b3 ♕c8! (12...axb5? 13.♘xf7!+-) 13.♗g5 axb5 14.♘xb5



14...♘a6! (14...♘c6 15.♘xf7! ♔xf7 16.♗xf6 ♖xa1 17.♖xa1 ♔xf6 (17...♗xf6 18.♗xe6+ ♕xe6 19.d5±) 18.♕f3+ ♔g5 19.h4+! ♔h6 20.♕e3+ ♔g6 21.♗xe6±) 15.♖fe1 (15.♖ac1 ♘d5 16.♗xe7 ♘xe7 17.♘c3 ♘c6 18.♖fd1 ♘xe5 19.dxe5 ♘b8 20.♗e2 ♖a5!? 21.♘b5 ♘c6∞) 15...♗d5 16.♖ec1 (16.♗xf6 ♗xc4 17.♕xc4 ♗xf6 18.♖a5 ♗xe5 19.dxe5 ♕b7 20.♖ea1 c6! 21.♘d6 ♕xb2=) 16...h6 17.♗xd5 ♘xd5 18.♗xe7 ♘xe7 19.♘d6 ♕b8 20.♕xb8 ♖fxb8 21.♘dxf7 ♘b4! (21...♖xb2 22.g4 ♘d5 23.♖a3±) 22.♖a3

♘bd5=; 11.♗f4 ♘bd7 (11...a6 12.♖e1 ♔h8 13.bxa6 ♘xa6 14.d5! ♘c5 15.♖xa8 ♕xa8 16.dxe6 fxe6 17.f3 ♕a5 18.♗g3 ♗d6 19.♘b5±) 12.♘c6 ♗xc6 13.bxc6 ♘b6 14.♗a6 ♖b8! 15.♗b7 ♘fd5 16.♗g3 ♗b4 17.♕d3 a5 18.♖fd1 ♕e7∞; 11.♖e1 ♘bd7 (11...c5?! 12.♕e2!± (12.bxc6 ♘xc6 13.♗a6± - 46/(510)) 12...♕e8 13.♘xf7! ♖xf7 14.♕xe6 ♔f8□ 15.♗e3 ♘bd7 16.♕f5 cxd4 17.♗xd4 ♘b6 18.♗e6 ♗c8 19.♗xf7 ♕xf7 20.♕f3 ♘fd5 21.♕e4+-; 11...♗d6?! 12.♗g5 h6 13.♗xf6 ♕xf6 14.♘e4 ♗xe4 (14...♕e7 15.♘c5! ♗xc5 16.dxc5 ♕xc5 17.♖c1 ♕d6 18.♘xf7!+-) 15.♖xe4 ♔h8 16.♗e2 ♕e7 17.♗f3±; 11...a6?! 12.♘xf7! ♖xf7 13.♗xe6± Δ♕e8 14.♕b3 ♔f8 15.♗f4 axb5 16.♖xa8 ♗xa8 17.♖a1! ♗c6 18.♗xc7 ♘bd7 19.♘xb5+-; 11...♔h8 12.♕e2! (12.♗f4 a6! 13.bxa6 ♘xa6 14.d5 ♘c5 15.dxe6 ♖xa1 16.♕xa1 fxe6!⇄) 12...♗d6 13.♗g5 ♘bd7 14.♕e3 Δ Qh3→) 12.♗b3 (12.♕e2 ♘b6 13.♗b3 ♕xd4! 14.♘xf7 ♖xf7 15.♕xe6 ♗d5 16.♘xd5 ♘bxd5 17.♗g5 ♖f8 18.♖ad1 ♕xb2 19.♗xf6 ♘xf6 20.♖b1 ♕d4 21.♕xe7 ♘d5=) 12...♘xe5 13.dxe5 ♕xd1 14.♖xd1 ♘g4 15.♖d7 ♗c5 (15...♗d8 16.f4±) 16.♖xc7 ♗xf2+ 17.♔f1 ♗d5 18.♗xd5 exd5 19.h3 ♗b6 20.♘xd5 ♘xe5 21.♗f4 f6 22.♘xb6 axb6 23.♖a6±

11...c6?



11...♘bd7 12.♗e3 (12.♘xf7 ♖xf7 13.♕xe6 ♕e8 14.♗f4 ♗d8! 15.♖a3 ♕xe6 16.♗xe6 ♘b6 17.♖fa1 ♘c8 18.♗e5 ♔f8∞; 12.♖d1!? ♗d6 (12...♕c8 13.♗g5 ♕e8 14.♗d3±) 13.♗g5 ♘b6 14.♗d3 h6 15.♗h4 ♗e7 16.♗b1 ♘fd5 17.♕c2 (17.♗xe7 ♕xe7 18.♘xd5 ♘xd5 19.♖a3±) 17...f5 18.♗xe7 ♕xe7!? (18...♘xe7 19.♖a3 a6 20.♗a2↑) 19.♘g6 (19.♘xd5 ♗xd5 20.♖a3 ♕b4 21.♕c3!? ♕xb5 22.♗d3 ♕e8 23.♖da1±) 19...♕g5 20.♘xf8 ♘xc3 21.f4 ♕g4 22.bxc3 ♗xg2 23.♖d3 ♗e4+ 24.♖g3 ♕xg3+ 25.hxg3 ♗xc2 26.♗xc2 ♔xf8 27.♗d1 Δ Bf3±) 12...♘b6 13.b3 (13.♗d3 ♘bd5 14.♖fd1 ♘xe3 15.fxe3!? ♗d6 16.♘c4 ♗b4 17.♖a4 ♕e7 18.♖da1 c5 19.♘a2 a5∞) 13...♘fd5 (13...♘fd7 14.♖fd1 ♗b4 15.♘a4 ♕e7 16.♘d3±) 14.♘a4 ♘xe3 15.fxe3 ♘xc4 16.bxc4 a6 17.♘c5 ♗xc5 18.dxc5 ♗e4 19.♖ad1 ♕e7 20.♖d4 f5 (20...f6 21.♘d7 e5 22.♖d2± Δ c6) 21.b6! (21.♘d7 ♖fd8 22.c6 axb5 23.cxb5 ♗d5⇄) 21...♖fb8 22.♖d7 ♕xc5 23.bxc7±

12.♘xf7!± ♖xf7 13.♕xe6 ♕f8

13...♕e8 14.♖e1 ♔f8 15.♗f4 a6 16.♘e4+-

14.♖e1 cxb5 15.♘xb5 ♘c6

15...♗b4 16.♗f4! ♗xe1 17.♘d6 ♗d5 18.♗xd5 ♘xd5 19.♕xd5 ♗xf2+ 20.♔xf2 ♘c6 21.♔g1 ♖d8 22.♖f1 ♘xd4 (22...♖d7 23.♕xc6 ♖xf4 24.♕d5++-) 23.♕xf7+ ♕xf7 24.♘xf7 ♖d5 25.♗e5+-

16.♗g5

16.♗f4 h6 17.♗d6! ♗c8 18.♕xe7 ♘xe7 19.♗xe7 ♕e8 20.♘d6+-

16...♗b4

16...a6 17.♗xf6 gxf6 18.♕d7 axb5 19.♗xf7+ ♕xf7 20.♕xb7 ♖xa1 21.♖xa1 ♘d8 (21...♘xd4 22.♕c8+ Δ Qg4+-) 22.♕xb5 ♕e6 23.♕d3+-

17.♗xf6 gxf6 18.♖e3 ♘e7 19.♖b3!?

19.♖g3+ ♔h8 20.♕xf7 ♕xf7 21.♗xf7+-

19...♗d5 20.♗xd5 ♘xd5 21.♕xd5 ♖d8 22.♕c4 a5 23.♘a7! ♔h8 24.♘c6 ♖c7 25.d5+- ♕d6 26.♖d3

26.♘xd8 ♖xc4 27.♘f7+ ♔g7 28.♘xd6 ♗xd6 29.g3+-

26...♖e8 27.g3 ♖e2 28.b3 ♗c5 29.♖xa5 ♗xf2+ 30.♔f1 1-0

144. D23
Erigaisi, Arjun (2634) - Goryachkina, Aleksandra (2602)
Riga 150/144, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♕b3 dxc4 5.♕xc4 ♗g4 6.♘c3 ♘bd7 7.♗f4 e6

7...♕a5 - 123/127

8.e4 ♗xf3 9.gxf3 ♗e7 10.O-O-O ♖c8N

10...O-O

11.♔b1 O-O 12.♖g1 ♔h8 13.♗h3

13.h4!?; 13.♕d3!?

13...b5 14.♕f1

14.♕d3 ♕a5 (14...b4 15.♘a4↑) 15.♕c2 ♘b6∞

14...♕a5?!

14...b4 15.♘e2 (15.♘a4?! ♕a5 16.b3 c5∓) 15...♕b6∞; 14...a5!?

15.♘e2

15.d5!?

15...b4 16.♖g5

16.♘c1!?

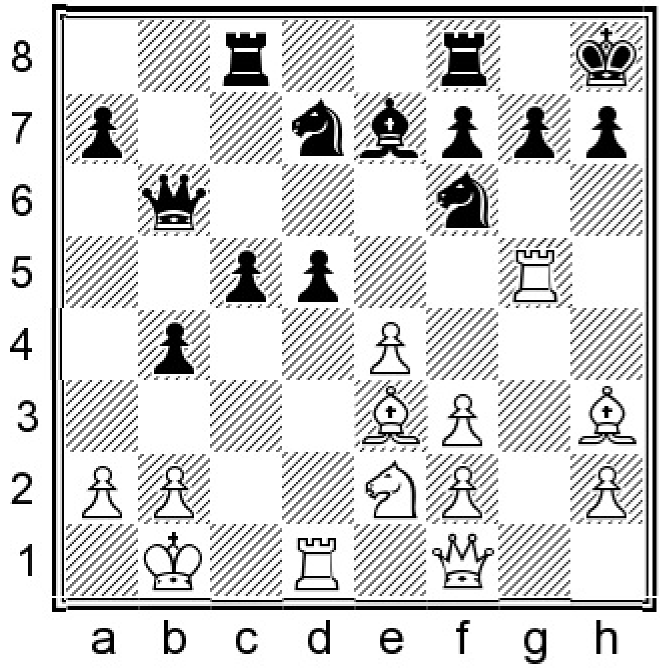
16...♕b6

16...♕a4!?

17.♗e3 c5

17...♕b7!?∞

18.d5! exd5?



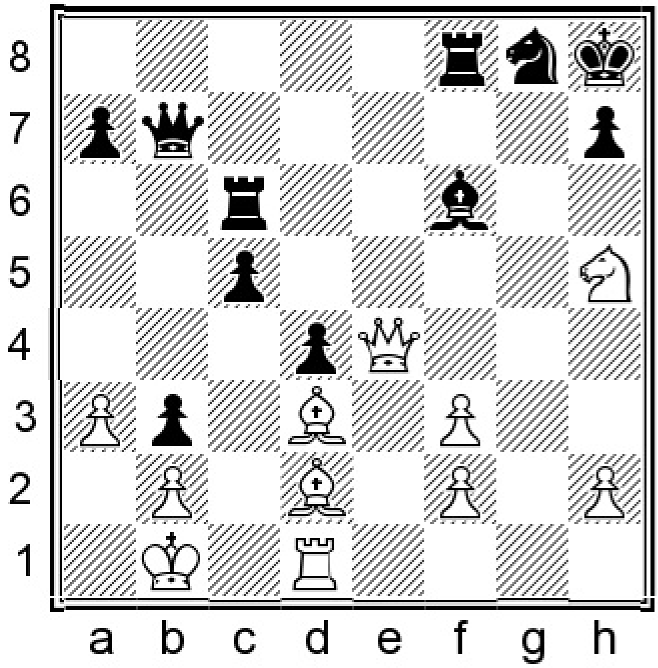
18...♖fd8 19.dxe6 (19.♘f4 ♘xe4 20.fxe4 ♗xg5 21.dxe6 (21.♘xe6 ♗xe3 22.♘xd8 ♖xd8 23.♗xd7 ♗f4∓) 21...fxe6 22.♘xe6 ♗xe3 23.fxe3 ♘f6 24.♘xd8 ♖xd8=) 19...fxe6∞

19.e5!

19.♗xd7 ♘xd7 20.♖gxd5 ♘f6 21.♖5d2 ♕a5∞

19...♖cd8?!

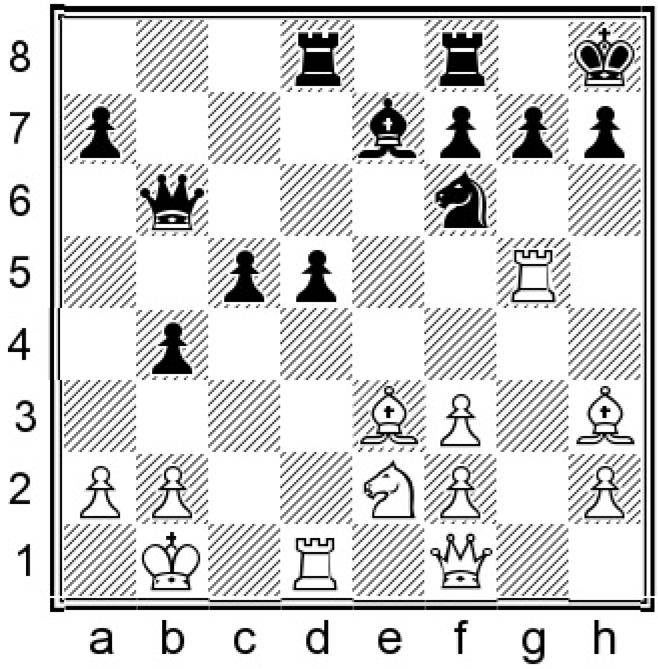
19...b3 20.a3 ♘g8 21.♖xg7! ♔xg7 22.♗xd7 ♖c7 23.♗f5 ♘h6 24.♗d3 d4 25.♗d2 c4 (25...♔h8 26.♘f4 ♖c6 27.♕e2 ♕b7 28.♕e4 f5 29.exf6 ♗xf6 30.♘h5 ♘g8


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

31.♘g7! ♕xg7 32.♕xc6+-) 26.♗e4±→

19...♘g8 20.♖xg7! ♔xg7 21.♗xd7±→

20.exf6 ♘xf6


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

21.♘f4! d4 22.♗c1 ♘e4

⌓22...♕c6

23.fxe4?!

23.♘d5! ♖xd5 24.♖xd5 ♘c3+ 25.bxc3 bxc3+ 26.♔c2 ♖b8 27.♗a3+-

23...♗xg5 24.♘d5 ♕g6?!

24...♕h6

25.♗f5 ♕h6 26.♖d3?!

26.♗xg5 ♕xg5 27.♕h3 g6 28.f4 ♕h5 29.♕xh5 gxh5 30.♘f6+-

26...♗xc1 27.♖h3 g6 28.♖xh6 ♗xh6 29.♗h3?!

29.♕h3! ♗g7 30.♗d7±

29...f5 30.♗g2 fxe4 31.♗xe4 ♖de8! 32.♕g2 c4 33.♔c2

33.b3!?

33...d3+ 34.♔d1 ♖e5!∞ 35.h4

35.f3

35...♖xd5

35...♖fe8!?

36.♗xd5 c3 37.bxc3 bxc3 38.♗b3 ♖c8 39.♗c2□ dxc2+ 40.♔xc2 ♗g7

40...♖f8 41.♔xc3 a5 42.♔c4 ♖f5=

41.♕b7

41.♕g4!?

41...♖d8= 42.f4 h5 43.♕xa7 ♖d2+ 44.♔c1 ♖b2?

44...♖h2=

45.a4! ♖h2 46.♕a8+?!

46.♕g1! ♖xh4 47.a5 (47.♕xg6?! ♖h1+ 48.♔c2 ♖h2+ 49.♔b3 c2=) 47...♔h7 48.f5 gxf5 49.♕f2±

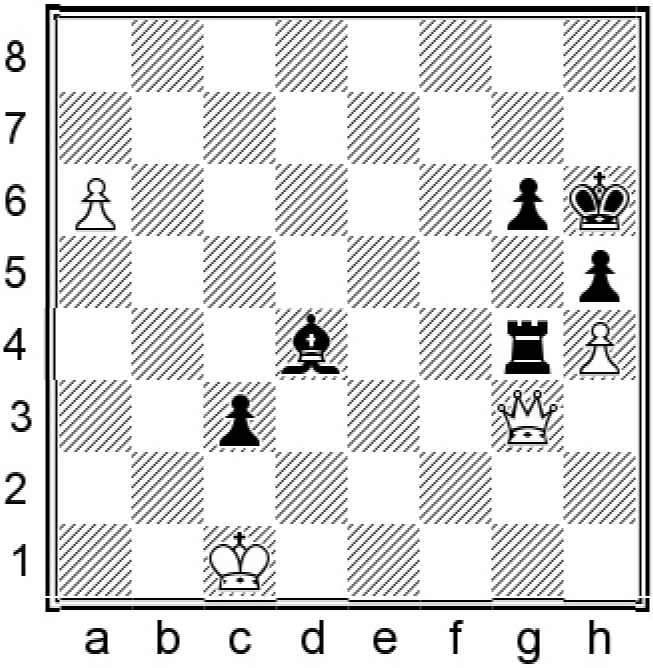
46...♔h7= 47.a5

47.♕f3 ♖a2=

47...♗d4?!

47...♖f2=

48.♕f3! ♖f2□ 49.♕h3 ♖xf4 50.a6 ♔h6 51.♕g3 ♖g4?



51...♖f7

52.♕h2! ♖e4 53.♔c2 ♖g4 54.♔d3 ♔g7 55.♕c7+ ♔h6?

55...♔f6

56.♕e7+- ⊙ 56...♗g1 57.♔xc3 ♗d4+ 58.♔d3 ♗g1 59.♕f8+ ♔h7 60.♕f7+ ♔h8 61.♔c3 ♖g3+ 62.♔c4 ♖g4+ 63.♔d5 ♖d4+ 64.♔e5 ♖g4 65.♕d7 ♔g8 66.a7 ♗xa7 67.♕xa7 1-0

145. D23
Bluebaum, Matthias (2640) - Harikrishna, Penteala (2719)
Riga 150/145, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♕c2 dxc4 5.♕xc4 ♗f5 6.g3 e6 7.♗g2 ♗e7 8.O-O ♘bd7 9.♕b3 ♕b6 10.♘bd2 O-O 11.♘c4 ♕a6 12.♗f4 ♘b6 13.♗d6 ♗xd6 14.♘xd6 ♗e4N

14...♗g6 - 58/419

15.♘xe4 ♘xe4 16.♕c2

16.♕e3!? ♘f6 (16...♘d6 17.a4 ♕a5 18.♖fc1 (18.♕e5 ♕xe5 19.dxe5 ♘f5 20.a5 ♘d7 21.♖fd1±) 18...♘d5 19.♕a3±) 17.a4 ♘bd7 18.b4±

16...♘f6

16...♘d6 17.a4 ♘d7 (17...♕c4?! 18.♕xc4 ♘bxc4 19.b3 ♘b6 20.a5 ♘d5 21.a6±) 18.a5±

17.♘e5

17.a4 ♕c4 (17...♕a5 18.♘e5±) 18.♕d2±; 17.♖fc1!?

17...♘bd7 18.♘xd7

18.♘c4!?

18...♘xd7 19.b4

19.a4!?

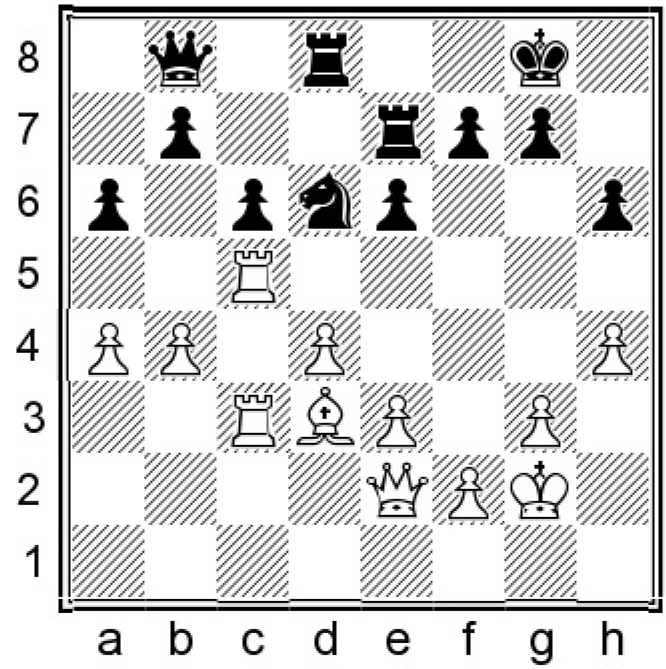
19...♕b6 20.♖ab1 ♘f6 21.e3 ♘d5 22.♕b3

22.♖fc1!?

22...a6 23.a4 ♖fd8 24.♖fc1 h6 25.♖c5 ♖ac8 26.♗f3 ♘e7 27.♕c2 ♕a7 28.h4 ♕b8 29.♔g2

29.b5 axb5 30.axb5 ♕d6 (30...cxb5 31.♖bxb5 b6 32.♖xc8 ♘xc8 33.♕b2±) 31.h5±

29...♘f5 30.♖b3 ♘d6 31.♖bc3 ♖e8 32.♗e2 ♖cd8 33.♗d3 ♖e7 34.♕e2



34.♖b3

34...♘e8! [Δ 35...e5, 35...Nf6] **35.b5 axb5 36.axb5 cxb5**

36...cxb5 37.♖xb5 ♖c7; 36...e5!?

1/2-1/2

146. D24
Oliveira, Marcio Barbosa de - Fremmegaard, Jens Tore
corr 150/146, 2020

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 dxc4 5.e4 ♗b4 6.♗xc4 ♘xe4 7.O-O ♘xc3 8.bxc3 ♗d6 9.♘g5 h6 10.♘e4

10.♕h5 - 113/145

10...O-O 11.♕h5 ♘d7

11...f5 12.♘xd6 cxd6 13.♗f4 d5 14.♗d3 ♗d7 15.♖ab1 (15.♖ae1 ♘c6 16.♖e3 ♖f6 17.♖b1 b6 18.♖be1 ♘e7=) 15...b6 16.♖be1 ♖f6 17.♗e5 ♖f7 18.♗f4 ♖f6 19.♖e3 ♘c6 20.♖fe1 ♘e7 21.♗e5 ♖g6=

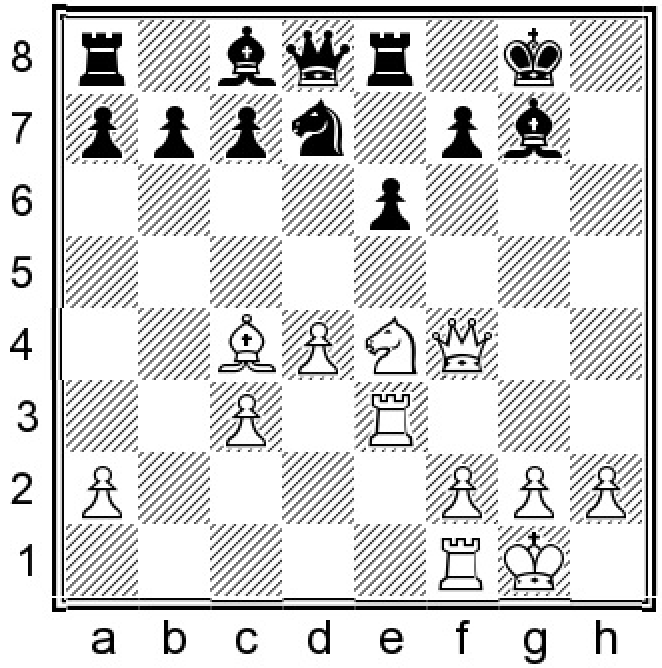
12.♗xh6 gxh6 13.♕xh6→ ♖e8 14.♖ae1

14.♖ad1 ♗f8 15.♕f4 ♗g7 16.♖d3 ♘f8 17.♖g3 ♘g6 18.♕g4 ♗f6 19.f4 ♔g7 20.♘g5 ♕e7 21.h4 ♗xg5 22.fxg5 e5 23.♕e4 ♗e6 24.d5 ♖h8 25.dxe6 ♖xh4 26.♖xf7+ ♕xf7 27.♕xh4 ♘xh4 28.exf7 ♘f5 29.♖f3 ♘d6 30.♗b3 ♖f8 31.♔f2=

14...♗f8 15.♕f4N

15.♕h3 ♘f6 16.♘g5 ♗g7 17.f4 b5 18.♗xb5 ♖e7 19.♗c4 ♕d6 20.♖e5 ♗a6 21.♗xa6 ♕xa6=

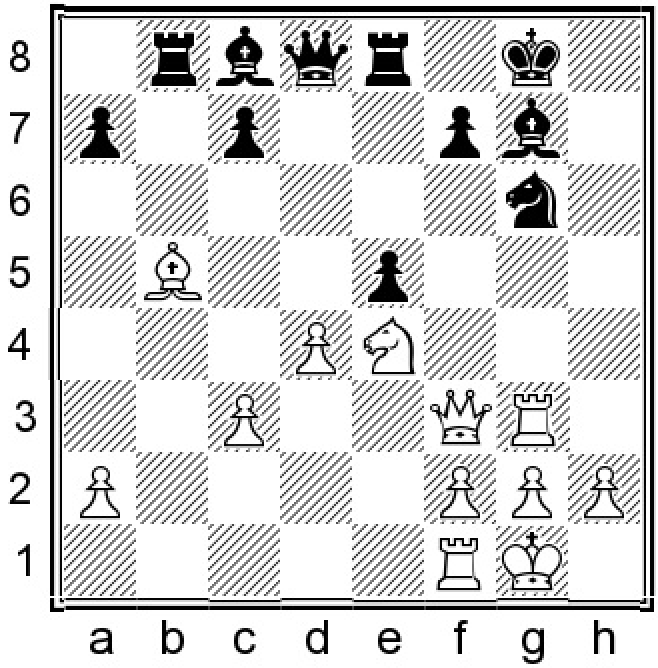
15...♗g7 16.♖e3!



16...♘f8! 17.♖g3 ♘g6 18.♕g4 b5?

18...♗f6 19.♖f3 ♗g7 20.♘g5 ♗f6 21.♘e4 ♗g7 22.♖g3 ♗f6 23.f4 ♔g7 24.♘g5 ♕e7 25.♖h3 ♖h8 26.♖xh8 ♔xh8 (26...♘xh8?? 27.♘xe6+ ♔h6 28.♖f3 ♘g6 29.♖h3+ ♗h4 30.f5 ♗xe6 31.♗xe6 ♕g5 32.♕xg5+ ♔xg5 33.fxg6 fxg6 34.g3 ♔f6 35.♗b3 ♗g5+-) 27.♕h5+ ♔g7 28.♕h7+ ♔f8 29.h4 ♘h8 30.♖e1=

19.♗xb5 e5 20.♕f3 ♖b8



20...exd4? 21.♘g5+-

21.♘g5!

21.♗xe8 ♕xe8 22.♘f6+ ♗xf6 23.♕xf6 ♖b6 24.♕g5 exd4 25.cxd4 ♖b5 26.d5 c6 27.♖e3 ♕f8±

21...♗e6 22.♗xe8 ♕xe8 23.h4 exd4 24.cxd4 ♗xa2 25.♘e4 ♖b3

⌓25...♕e6 26.h5 ♖b3 27.♘c3 ♘e7 28.h6 ♕xh6 29.♕a8+ ♔h7 30.♕xa7±

26.♕e2!

26.♘f6+? ♗xf6 27.♕xf6 ♖xg3=

26...♕a4 27.♖g5 ♖b6

27...♗xd4? 28.h5 ♖b1 29.hxg6 ♖xf1+ 30.♕xf1 f6 31.♖f5 ♔g7 32.♕e2+-

28.♘c5 ♕c4 29.♕e8+ ♘f8 30.♘d7 ♖g6 31.♘xf8

31.♖xg6 fxg6 32.♘xf8 ♗xf8 33.♕xg6+ ♔h8 34.♕h5+ ♔g7 35.♕g5+ ♔h7 36.♕f5+ ♔g7 37.♕g4+ ♔h7 38.♕h5+ ♔g7 39.♖a1 ♗d6 40.♕g5+ ♔h7 41.♕f5+ ♔g7 42.♕g4+ ♔f6 43.♕g5+ ♔f7 44.♕f5+ ♔g7 45.g3±

31...♗xf8 32.♖xg6+ fxg6 33.♕xg6+ ♔h8 34.♕h5+ ♔g7 35.♖a1 ♗d6 36.♕g5+ ♔h7 37.♕f5+ ♔g8

37...♔g7±

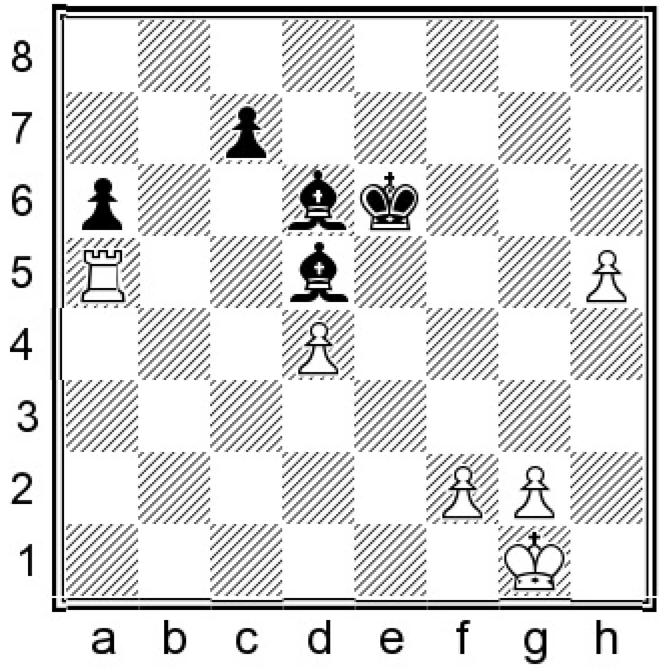
38.♕g6+ ♔f8 39.♕f6+ ♔g8 40.♖e1 ♕f7 41.♕xf7+ ♔xf7 42.♖a1 ♗d5 43.♖a5

43.♖xa7?! ♔f6±

43...♔e6 44.h5

44.♖xa7 ♔f5 45.g3 ♔e4 46.h5 ♔xd4±

44...a6


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

45.g4!

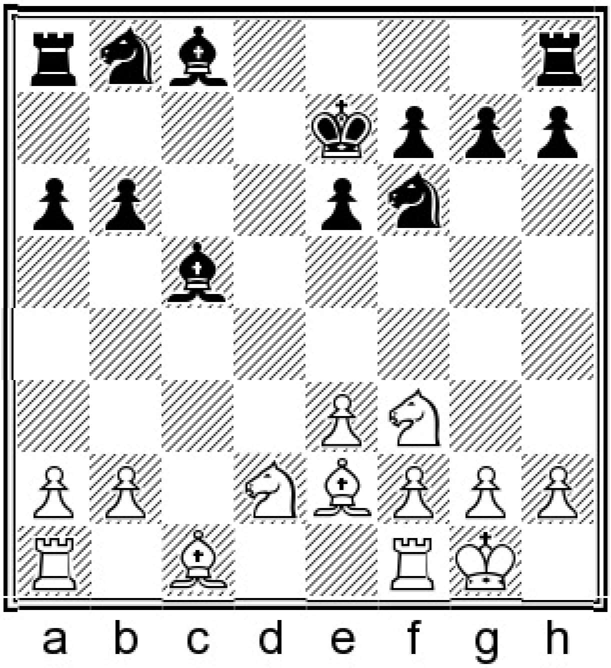
45.♖xa6?! ♔f6±

1-0

D25-D49

147. D27
So, Wesley (2778) - Dominguez Perez, Leinier (2760)
USA (ch) 150/147, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.e3 e6 5.♗xc4 a6 6.O-O c5 7.dxc5 ♗xc5 8.♕xd8+ ♔xd8 9.♗e2 ♔e7 10.♘bd2 b6



10...♗d7 - 112/224

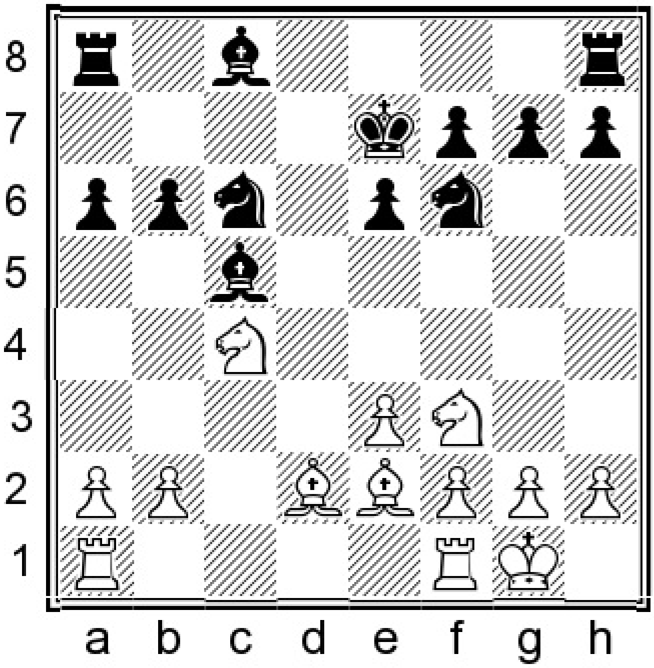
11.♘c4!?N

11.b3; 11.a3; 11.♘e5

11...♘c6

11...♘bd7 12.♘d4 (12.♗d2 ♘e4 13.♖fd1 ♘xd2 14.♖xd2 ♗b7=; 12.a3 a5 13.b3 ♗b7 14.♗b2 ♖hc8=) 12...♗b7 13.♘b3 ♗d5 (13...a5 14.♘xc5 bxc5 15.f3↑) 14.♘xc5 ♗xc4 (14...bxc5? 15.♘a5±) 15.♗xc4 ♘xc5 16.♗d2↑; 11...a5!?

12.♗d2



12.a3!?

12...b5!

12...♗b7 13.b4!? (13.♖fc1 ♘e4 - 12...Ne4) 13...♗xb4 14.♘xb6 ♖ab8 15.♖fc1↑; 12...♘e4 13.♖fc1 ♗b7 14.♗e1↑

13.♘ce5

13.♘a5 ♘xa5 14.♗xa5 ♗b7=

13...♘xe5 14.♘xe5 ♗b7 15.♖fc1 ♗d6□

15...♗b6? 16.a4! ♖hd8 (16...bxa4? 17.♗b4+ ♔e8 18.♗d1!+-) 17.♗b4+ ♔e8 18.axb5 a5 19.♗a3+-; 15...♘e4 16.♖xc5! ♘xc5 17.♗b4 (17.♖c1!? ♘e4 18.♗b4+ ♔f6 19.♘d7+ ♔g6 20.♖c7 ♖hc8 21.♖xb7 ♖c1+ 22.♗f1+-) 17...♔f6 18.♘g4+ ♔f5 19.♗xc5 h5 20.e4+ ♗xe4 21.♘e3++-

16.♘c6+ ♗xc6 17.♖xc6 ♖hc8 18.♖ac1 ♖xc6 19.♖xc6 ♔d7

19...♘e4 20.♗a5 ♔d7 21.♖c2 f5=

20.♖c2 ♘d5= 21.♗f3 ♖c8 22.♖xc8 ♔xc8 23.♗xd5 exd5 24.♗c3 g6 25.♔f1 ♔d7 26.♔e2 ♔e6 27.h3 h5 28.♔d3 ♗c5 29.f3 f5 30.b3 ♗e7 31.a4 ♗c5 32.axb5 axb5 33.♗d4 ♗e7 34.♗c3 ♗c5 35.♗d4 ♗e7 36.♗g7 ♗c5 37.♗d4 1/2-1/2

148. D35
Ftacnik, Lubomir (2513) - Lupulescu, Constantin (2659)
Reykjavik 150/148, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 d5 3.c4 e6 4.♘c3 ♘bd7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.♗f4 c6 7.♕c2 ♘h5

7...♘b6 - 89/367

8.♗g5

8.♗d2 - 82/367

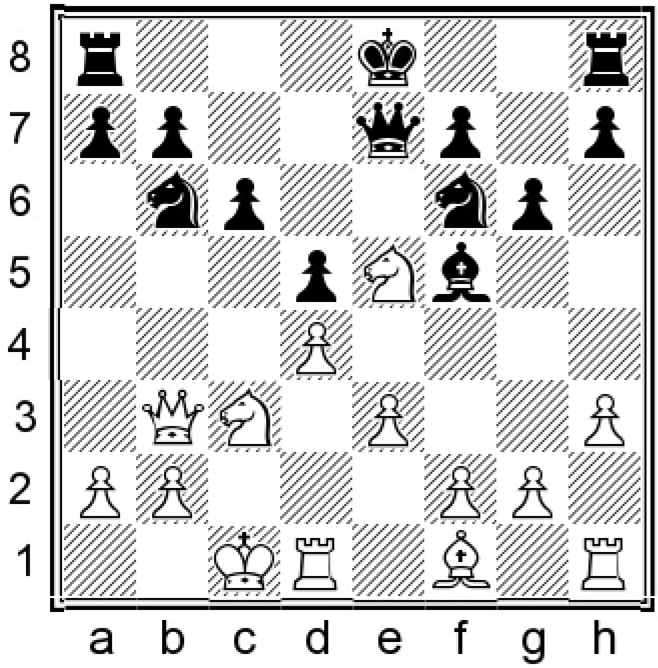
8...♗e7 9.♗xe7 ♕xe7 10.e3 ♘b6 11.h3 g6 12.O-O-O

12.g4 ♘g7 (12...♘f6 - 82/(366)) 13.O-O-O ♗e6 - 89/(367)

12...♗f5 13.♕b3

13.♗d3 - 82/366

13...♘f6 14.♘e5



14.g4 ♗e4!? (14...♘e4 15.gxf5 ♘xf2 16.♖h2 ♘xd1 17.♘xd1±; 14...♗e6 15.♕c2 O-O-O 16.♗d3 h5!? 17.g5 ♘fd7 18.♘e2 ♔b8 19.♘f4 c5⇄) 15.♗e2 O-O-O 16.♖hg1 ♗xf3!? (16...h5 17.♘g5! hxg4 18.hxg4 ♖h2!? (18...♘h7?! 19.♘xf7! - 81/339) 19.f3 ♗xf3 20.♘xf3 ♕xe3+ 21.♘d2 ♖xe2 22.♘xe2 ♕xe2 23.♖gf1 (23.♕f3!? ♕xf3 24.♘xf3 ♘e4 25.♘e5 f6 26.♘xg6 a5 27.♘e7+ ♔c7 28.♘f5±) 23...♘xg4!? 24.♖de1 ♕g2 25.♖xf7 ♘h6! 26.♖h7 ♘f5 27.♕b4 ♕g5 28.♔b1 ♕g3 (28...♕f6 29.♘f3 ♖d7 30.♖h2±) 29.♘b3 ♕d3+ 30.♔c1 (30.♔a1? ♘e3∓) 30...♘d7 (30...♕c4+ 31.♕xc4 ♘xc4 32.♖e6±) 31.♕xb7+ (31.♖f7 ♕c4+ 32.♕xc4 dxc4 33.♘d2 ♘d6 34.♖g7 ♘b6! 35.♖xg6 ♘d5 36.♖g7 a5 Δ a4, c3) 31...♔xb7 32.♘c5+ ♔b6 33.♘xd3 ♘f6 (33...♘xd4 34.♖h4 ♘f5 35.♖b4+ ♔c7 36.♖g4 ♖g8 37.♘f4±) 34.♖f7 ♘e4! 35.♘c5 ♘xc5 36.dxc5+ ♔xc5 37.♖f6 (37.♖xa7 g5 38.♖f7 ♘d6 39.♖g7 ♘e4∞) 37...♖h8 38.♖xg6 ♘d4∞) 17.♗xf3 h5 (17...♘e8!? Δ Nd6∞) 18.g5 ♘e4 19.♗xe4 dxe4 Δ Nd5∞

14...h5N

14...♘fd7 15.♘xd7 ♕xd7 16.♕a3 ♕e7 17.♕xe7+ ♔xe7 18.g4 ♗e6 19.♗d3 h5 20.g5 (20.f3 g5 21.f4 f6⇄) 20...h4 21.♘e2 a5 22.♘f4 ♗d7=; 14...♘e4!? 15.♘xe4 (15.♘d3 O-O 16.♘xe4 dxe4 17.♘c5 ♗e6 18.♘xe6 (18.♕c2 ♗d5 Δ f5) 18...♕xe6 19.♕xe6 fxe6 20.♖d2 ♖ae8 Δ e5⇄) 15...dxe4 16.♔b1 ♗e6 17.♕c2 ♗d5 18.h4 (18.f3 exf3 19.e4 fxg2 20.♗xg2 ♗e6 21.h4 O-O 22.h5 g5! 23.♗f3 ♖ae8 Δ f6∓) 18...f6 19.♘c4 h5 20.♗e2 ♕e6 21.♖c1 ♔f7∞

15.♗d3

15.♗e2 h4 16.♗g4 ♘fd7 17.♗xf5 ♘xe5 18.♗c2 ♘ec4 19.♗d3 (19.♖he1 ♘a5) 19...O-O-O 20.♘a4 ♘xa4 21.♕xa4 ♘b6 22.♕b3 (22.♕xa7?! ♔c7↑) 22...♕g5 23.♖hg1 f5⇄

15...♗xd3

15...♘fd7 16.♗xf5 ♘xe5 17.♗c2 ♘ec4 18.♗d3 O-O-O 19.h4 ♕f6 20.♕c2 ♖he8=

16.♖xd3 h4∞ 17.♖e1 ♘fd7

17...O-O-O 18.e4 ♖h7!? 19.f3 ♘h5 20.♖dd1 ♕g5+ 21.♔b1 f6 (21...♕xg2? 22.exd5+-) 22.♘d3 ♘f4 23.♘xf4 ♕xf4∞

18.♘xd7

18.f4 ♘xe5 19.fxe5 f6 20.e4 O-O-O 21.♔b1 ♖hf8⇄

18...♕xd7 19.e4 O-O!?

19...O-O-O 20.exd5 ♘xd5 21.♘xd5 cxd5 (21...♕xd5 22.♖e7±) 22.♖de3 ♖he8 23.♖xe8 ♖xe8 24.♖xe8+ ♕xe8 25.♕xd5 ♕e1+=

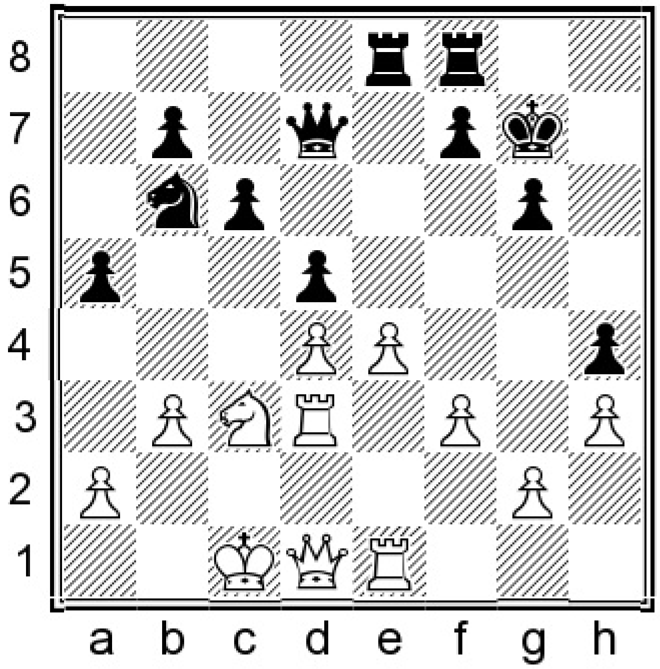
20.♕d1 ♖ae8

20...♔g7 21.♕d2 (21.e5 f6 22.f4 fxe5 23.fxe5 ♖f2⇄) 21...♖ae8 22.♕g5 (22.f3 a5 23.♕g5 ♖h8 24.e5 ♕e6∞) 22...dxe4 23.♖xe4 ♖h8 24.♖f3 (24.♖xh4 ♖xh4 25.♕xh4 ♕f5⇄) 24...♘d5 25.♖xe8 ♖xe8 26.♘xd5 cxd5 27.♖e3=

21.f3

21.e5 f6 22.f4 fxe5 23.fxe5 ♔g7 24.b3 ♕e7 25.♕d2 (25.♕g4 ♖f2⇄) 25...♘a8!?⇄ Δ Nc7-e6

21...♔g7 22.b3 a5!⇄



23.♖de3?!

23.♕d2 a4! 24.e5 axb3 25.axb3 ♘c8!? 26.♕f4 ♕e7 27.♖dd1 (27.♔b2 ♘d6! Δ Nf5∓) 27...♘b6 28.♔b2 ♘a8! Δ Nc7↑

23.a4 ♘a8!? (23...dxe4 24.fxe4 f5 25.e5 ♖d8 26.♕d2 ♕e7 27.♔b2 ♘d5 28.♘xd5 ♖xd5 29.g3 ♖fd8 30.♕f4 c5 31.e6!=) 24.♕d2 ♘c7 25.e5 b5⇄

23...a4!∓ 24.exd5?!

24.♔c2 axb3+ 25.axb3 ♖a8∓; 24.♘xa4 ♘xa4 25.bxa4 ♖a8 26.♕b3 ♖a7 27.♖1e2 ♖fa8 28.exd5 cxd5 29.♖e7 ♕d6∓

24...♖xe3 25.♖xe3 ♘xd5 26.♘xd5 ♕xd5

26...cxd5!? 27.♔b2 ♖a8 28.a3 axb3 29.♕xb3 ♖a4 30.♕d1 ♖a6! 31.♔a2 (31.♖b3 ♖e6∓) 31...♕c7 32.♕b3 ♖b6 33.♖c3 (33.♕c3 ♖c6-+) 33...♕d8∓

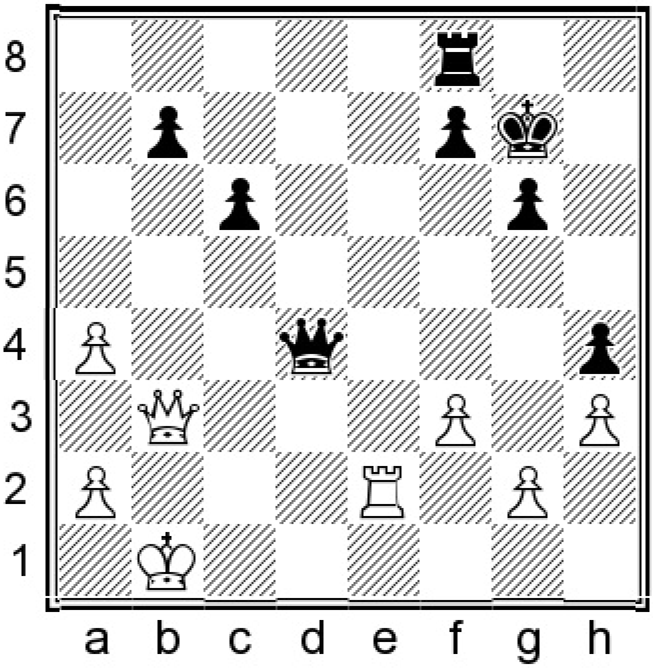
27.♖e5 ♕d6 28.bxa4?!

28.♖e4 axb3 29.♕xb3 ♖a8∓

28...♕a3+ 29.♔b1 ♕b4+ 30.♕b3

30.♔a1 ♖a8∓

30...♕xd4∓ 31.♖e2



31.♕b2 ♕d1+ 32.♕c1 ♕xa4 33.♖e4 ♕b5+ 34.♕b2+ ♕xb2+ 35.♔xb2 g5 36.f4 f6∓

31...♖a8! 32.♖e4

32.♕b2 ♖xa4 33.♖d2 ♕xb2+ 34.♖xb2 b5 35.♖c2 ♖a6 36.♔b2 ♔f6 37.♔b3 ♔e5 38.♔b4 ♔f4-+

32...♕g1+ 33.♔b2 ♕xg2+ 34.♔a3 ♕xh3

34...♕f2! 35.♖f4 ♕c5+ 36.♔b2 ♕e5+ 37.♕c3 ♕xc3+ 38.♔xc3 g5 39.♖b4 c5 40.♖xb7 ♖xa4 41.♖b2 f5-+

35.♖e7

35.♕c3+ ♔g8 36.♕f6 ♕c8! 37.♖xh4 ♕f8+ 38.♔b3 ♕g7∓

35...♕f5 36.♖xb7 h3-+ 37.♕c3+ ♕f6 0-1

149. D36
Abasov, Nijat (2638) - Henriquez Villagra, Cristobal (2608)
Riga 150/149, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 c6 5.♗g5 ♘bd7 6.cxd5 exd5 7.e3 ♗e7 8.♕c2 ♘h5 9.♗xe7 ♕xe7 10.O-O-O ♘b6 11.♗d3

11.♘e5 - 108/248

11...♗g4 12.♔b1 g6 13.♖c1 ♗xf3 14.gxf3 ♘f6

14...O-O-O 15.♘a4 (15.♕b3!?; 15.a4!?) 15...♘f6 (15...♘xa4?! 16.♕xa4±) 16.♕b3±

15.♔a1 ♘fd7N

15...♖d8?!

16.f4

16.h4!?

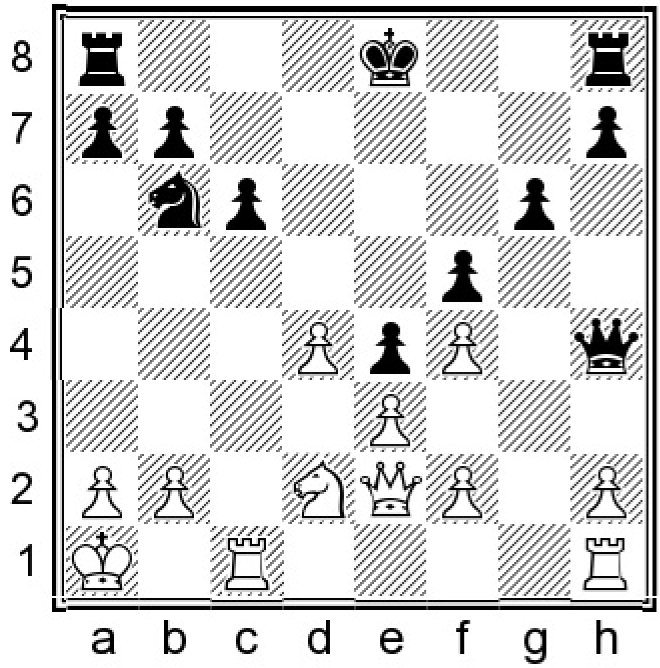
16...f5

16...O-O-O!?

17.♘b1

17.h4

17...♕h4 18.♕e2 ♘f6 19.♘d2 ♘e4 20.♗xe4 dxe4



21.f3

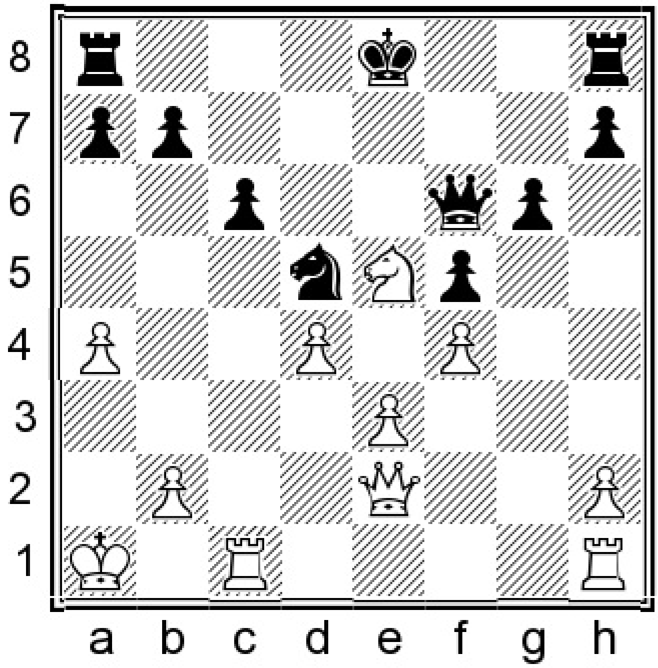
21.♘c4!±

21...exf3 22.♘xf3 ♕f6

⌓22...♕e7

23.♘e5

23.a4 ♘d5 (23...♘xa4? 24.d5!±) 24.♘e5



24...♖g8! (24...O-O-O? 25.♖xc6+! bxc6 26.♕a6+ ♔c7 27.♕xa7+ ♔d6 28.♖c1 ♘e7 29.d5! ♔xd5 30.♘d7! ♕h4 31.♘c5 ♔d6 32.e4 fxe4 33.♘xe4+ ♔e6 34.♘g5+ ♔f5 (34...♔d6 35.♖c4!+-) 35.♕c5+! ♖d5 36.♕c2+ ♔xf4 37.♘f7+-) 25.h4 ♖g7∞; 23.b4!±

23...O-O-O 24.b4 ♔b8= 25.b5 cxb5 26.♕xb5 ♕e6

⌓26...♕e7

27.♖c5 ♖d5 28.♖hc1 ♖hd8

28...♔a8!

29.♖1c2?!

29.♕b4↑

29...♖xc5 30.dxc5 ♖d1+ 31.♔b2 ♕d5 32.♕b4 ♘c8= 33.♔a3 ♔a8 34.h4 a6 35.♘c4 ♕c6 36.♘e5 ♕d5 37.♘c4 ♕c6 38.♘e5 ♕d5 1/2-1/2

150. D37
Cori Tello, Jorge (2655) - Martirosyan, Haik M (2624)
Riga 150/150, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 ♗e7 5.♗f4 O-O 6.e3 ♘bd7 7.c5 c6 8.h3 h6 9.a3 b6 10.b4 a5 11.♗d3 ♗a6 12.O-O ♕c8 13.♕c2

13.♖b1 - 128/147

13...♕b7 14.♖fb1 ♗xd3 15.♕xd3 axb4

15...♖fc8

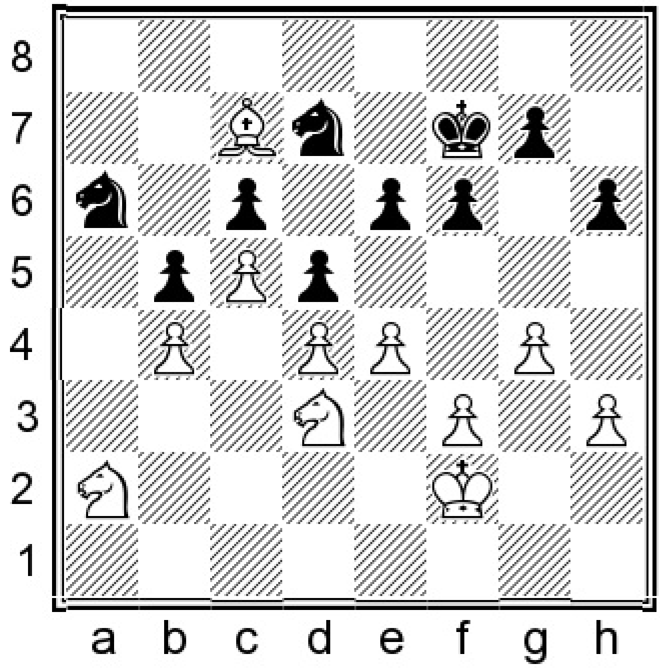
16.axb4 ♖xa1

16...♖fc8

17.♖xa1 ♖a8 18.♕b1 ♗d8 19.♖xa8 ♕xa8 20.♕a2 ♕b7 21.♕a4 b5 22.♕a2 ♘e8 23.♘e1N

23.♘b1

23...♘c7 24.♘d3 ♕a6 25.f3 ♕xa2 26.♘xa2 ♘a6 27.♔f2 f6 28.e4 ♔f7 29.g4 ♗c7 30.♗xc7



30...♘xc7?!

30...dxe4! 31.fxe4 ♘xc7 32.♘c3 f5! 33.♔f3 fxe4+ 34.♔xe4 (34.♘xe4 e5!=) 34...♔f6=

31.e5!± f5 32.♘ac1 g5 33.♘b3 fxg4

33...♘a6

34.hxg4 ♘a6 35.♘a5 ♘ab8 36.f4 gxf4 37.♘xf4 ♘f8 38.♔e3

38.♘b7 ♔e7 39.♔g3 ♘a6 40.♔h4 ♘xb4 41.♔h5 ♘c2 42.♘e2 b4 43.♘a5 ♔f7 44.♔xh6 ♘e3∞

38...♘g6 39.♘h5 ♘e7 40.♔d3 ♔g6 41.♘f6 ♘a6 42.♔c3 ♔g5 43.♘b7 ♔g6 44.♘d8 ♘c7 45.♔d2 ♔g5 46.♔e3 ♔h4

46...♘a6! 47.♘xe6+ ♔h4=

47.♔d3 ♔g5 48.♔d2 ♔g6 49.♔e3 ♘a6

49...♔g5? 50.♔f3 ♔g6 51.♘h5+-

50.♘xe6 ♘xb4 51.♔d2 ♘a6?

51...♔f7= 52.♘f4 ♘g6

52.♘h5 ♔f7 53.♘hf4 ♘g6 54.♘d8+ ♔e8 55.♘xg6 ♔xd8 56.♘h4 ♘c7 57.♘f5 ♘e6 58.♔c3

58.♔e3!

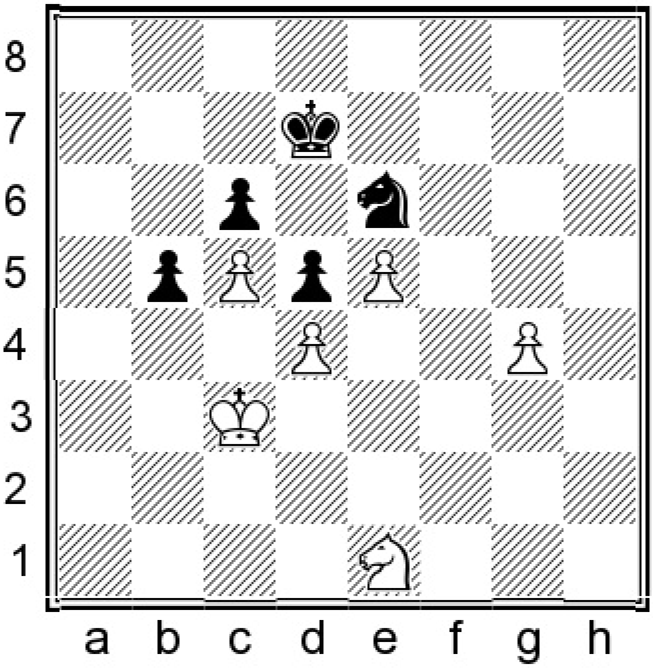
58...♔d7 59.♘xh6 ♘g5

59...b4+! 60.♔d3 ♔c7 (60...♔e7? 61.♘f5+ ♔d7 62.♔c2+-) 61.♘f5 ♔b7 62.♔c2 (62.♘e7 ♔c7) 62...♔a6=

60.♘f5 ♘e6 61.♘e3 ♘g5?

61...b4+ 62.♔d3 ♔c7=

62.♘c2 ♘e6 63.♘e1?



63.♘b4+-

63...♘g5

63...b4+!

64.♔d3 ♘e4

64...♘e6 65.♘f3+-

65.♔c2 ♘g5 66.♘d3 ♘e6 67.♔c3 ♔e7 68.♘b4 ♔d7 69.♔d3 ♘f4+ 70.♔e3 ♘e6 71.♘c2 ♔e7 72.♘e1 ♘g5 73.♘f3 ♘e4 74.g5 ♔f8 75.♔d3 ♔f7 76.♔c2 ♘g3 77.♔c3 ♘f5 78.♔b4+- ♘g3 79.♘d2 ♔g6 80.♘b3 ♘f5 81.♔a5 ♔xg5 82.♔b6 ♘e7 83.♔c7 ♔g6 84.♔d7 ♔f7 85.♘a5 b4 86.♘b3 ♔f8 87.e6 ♘g6 88.♔xc6 ♔e7 89.♔xd5 ♘f4+ 90.♔e5 ♘xe6 91.d5 ♘d8 92.♔d4 ♔f6 93.c6 ♘f7 94.♔c5 ♔e7 95.♘d2 ♘e5 96.♔xb4 ♘d3+ 97.♔c4 ♘e5+ 98.♔c5 ♘d3+ 99.♔d4 ♘b4 100.♔c4 ♘a6 101.♘e4 ♔d8 102.d6 ♔c8 103.♔b5 1-0

151. * D38
Gukesh, Dommaraju (2640) - Sadhwani, Raunak (2609)
Riga 150/151, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 ♗b4 5.♕a4+ ♘c6 6.e3 O-O 7.♗d2 dxc4 8.♗xc4 ♗d6 9.♕c2 e5 10.dxe5 ♘xe5 11.♘xe5 ♗xe5 12.O-O ♖e8N

12...♕e7 - 145/(126)

12...b6 - 145/126

13.h3

13.♕b3 ♗xh2+ (13...♗e6) 14.♔xh2 ♘g4+ 15.♔g3 ♘e5 16.♗e2 (16.♘e4 ♗f5 17.f3 b5!?↑) 16...♖e6 17.♔h2 ♖h6+ 18.♔g1 ♘f3+ 19.♗xf3 ♕h4 20.♗h5 ♕xh5 21.f3 ♕h2+= 22.♔f2 ♕h4+ 23.♔g1 (23.♔e2?! ♗e6 24.♘d5 ♖g6 25.♖g1 ♕d8⩱) 23...♕h2+=

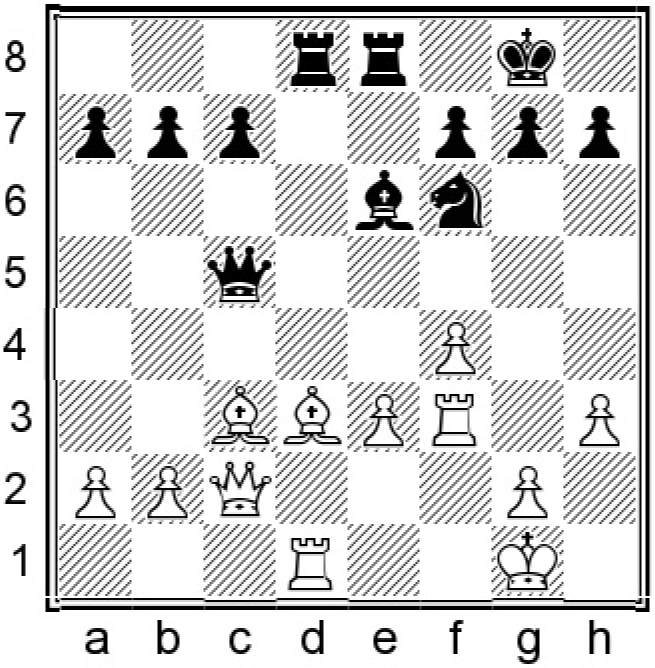
13...♗e6N

13...♕e7 - 150/(151) 14.♗d3 (14.♖ad1 ♗d7 15.♘d5 ♘xd5 16.♗xd5 c6 17.♗c4=) 14...♗d7 15.f4 ♗xc3 16.♗xc3 ♕xe3+ 17.♔h2 ♗c6 18.♖ae1 ♕b6 19.♗e5 ♖ad8= Au Cardero,R-Duszynski,J corr 150/(151) 2021

14.♗d3 ♕d7 15.♖ad1 ♖ad8 16.♗e1 ♕e7 17.f4 ♗xc3□ 18.♗xc3 ♕c5

18...♗xa2! 19.b3 (19.♗xf6 ♕xf6 20.b3 (20.♗xh7+ ♔h8=) 20...♖xe3 21.♗c4 b5 22.♗xf7+ ♔xf7 23.♕xc7+ ♔e8 24.♕xa7 ♖e2 25.♕c5=∞) 19...♕xe3+ 20.♔h2 ♗xb3 21.♕xb3 ♖xd3 22.♖f3 ♖xc3 23.♖xe3 ♖xb3 24.♖xb3 b6 25.♖c3=∞

19.♖f3



19.♗xf6 ♕xc2 20.♗xc2 gxf6 21.e4!? ♗xa2 22.b3 ♖xd1 23.♖xd1 ♖e6 24.♖a1 ♖a6 25.♔f2 c5=; 19.♖fe1!?

19...♗f5! 20.♗xf5 ♖xd1+ 21.♕xd1 ♕xf5 22.♖g3

22.♕a4 ♕e4! 23.♕xa7 ♘d5=

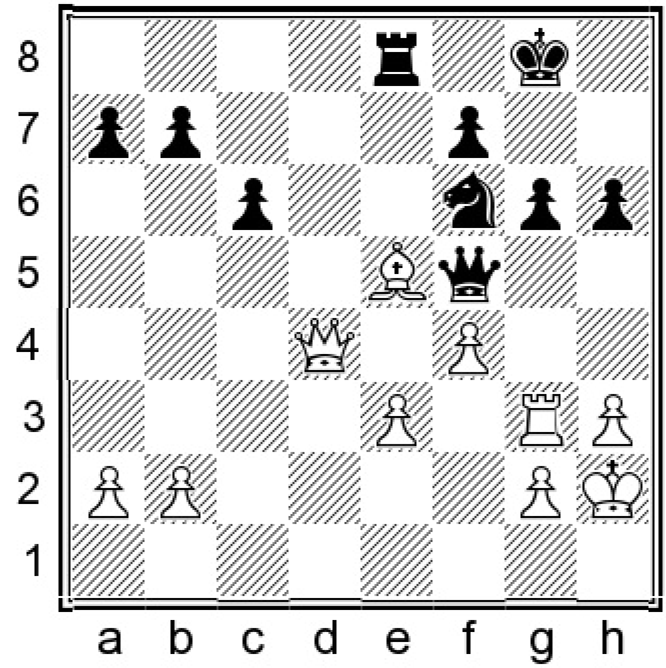
22...h6 23.♔h2 c6

23...a6!?

24.♗e5

24.♕d4 ♔h8 25.♕xa7 ♘e4=∞; 24.♕d6!?

24...g6 25.♕d4?!



25.e4 ♘xe4 26.♖d3 ♖xe5 27.fxe5 ♕xe5+ 28.♔g1 ♕xb2 29.♕e1=∞; 25.♖f3=

25...♘e4! 26.♖f3 f6 27.♗c7

27.g4 fxe5 28.♕c4+ ♕f7 29.♕xe4 exf4 30.♕xf4 ♕xf4+ 31.exf4 ♖e2+ 32.♔g3 ♖xb2 33.♖d3

27...b6?!

27...c5! 28.♕a4 ♖e7 29.♖f1 ♔f7∓ (29...♖xc7? 30.♕e8+ ♔g7 31.♖d1 h5 32.♖d8 ♔h6 33.♕h8+ ♖h7 34.♕f8+ ♖g7=)

28.♕a4?!

28.♖f1=

28...♖e7! 29.♗b8

29.♕xc6? ♕d7!-+

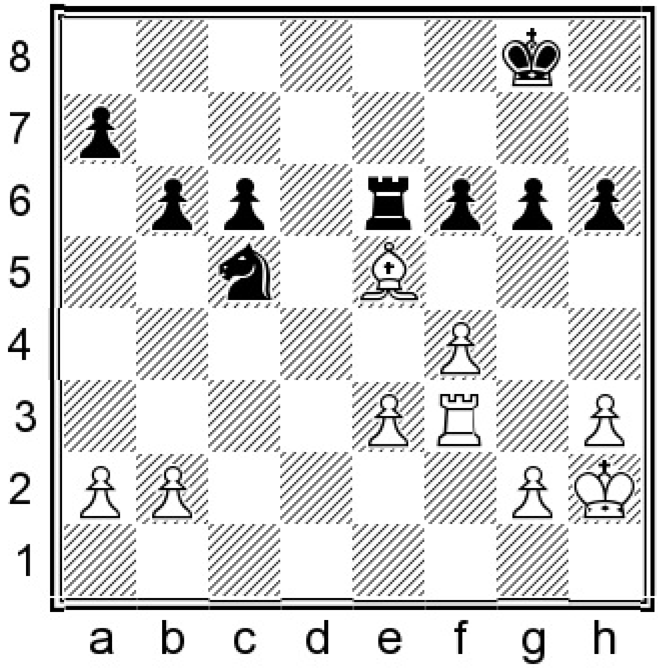
29...♕c8?!

29...♕d7∓

30.♗e5 ♘c5 31.♕c4+

31.♕c2 fxe5 32.♕xg6+ ♖g7 33.♕xh6 ♕e6-+

31...♕e6 32.♕xe6+ ♖xe6


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

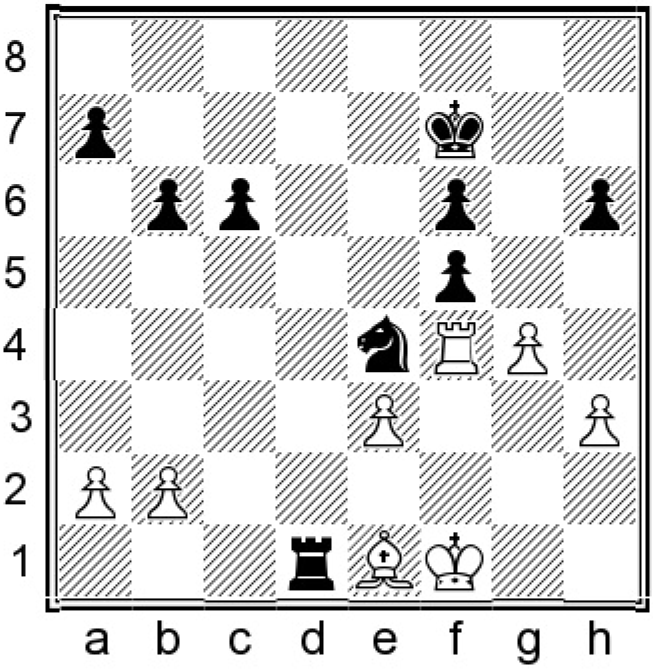
33.♗c3?!

33.♗b8∓

33...♘e4! 34.f5 gxf5 35.♗e1 ♖e5 36.♖f4 ♔f7 37.♔g1 ♖d5

⌓37...♖c5

38.♔f1 ♖d1 39.g4



39.♔e2 ♖b1 40.b4 ♖b2+-+

39...♘c5! 40.♖xf5

40.gxf5 ♘d3 41.♔e2 ♘xf4+ 42.♔xd1 ♘xh3-+

40...♖b1!-+ 41.h4 ♘d3

41...♔g6!?

42.♔e2 ♘xe1 43.g5 hxg5 44.hxg5 ♘c2 45.♖xf6+ ♔g7 46.♖xc6 ♖xb2 47.♖c7+ ♔g6 48.♖xa7 ♘b4+ 49.♔f3 ♘xa2 50.♔f4 ♘c3 51.♖a8 ♖b4+ 52.♔e5 ♖e4+ 53.♔d6 ♖c4

⌓53...♔xg5

54.♖g8+ ♔f5 55.g6 b5

55...♘b5+! 56.♔e7 ♖c7+ 57.♔d8 ♔e6

56.♔e7 b4 57.g7 ♔g6 58.♔e6 ♖c6+ 59.♔e5 ♖b6 0-1

152. D41
Lenderman, Aleksandr (2607) - So, Wesley (2778)
USA (ch) 150/152, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 c5 5.cxd5 cxd4 6.♕xd4 exd5 7.e4 dxe4 8.♕xd8+ ♔xd8 9.♘g5 ♗e6 10.♘xe6+ fxe6 11.♗g5 h6 12.O-O-O+ ♔e7 13.♗xf6+

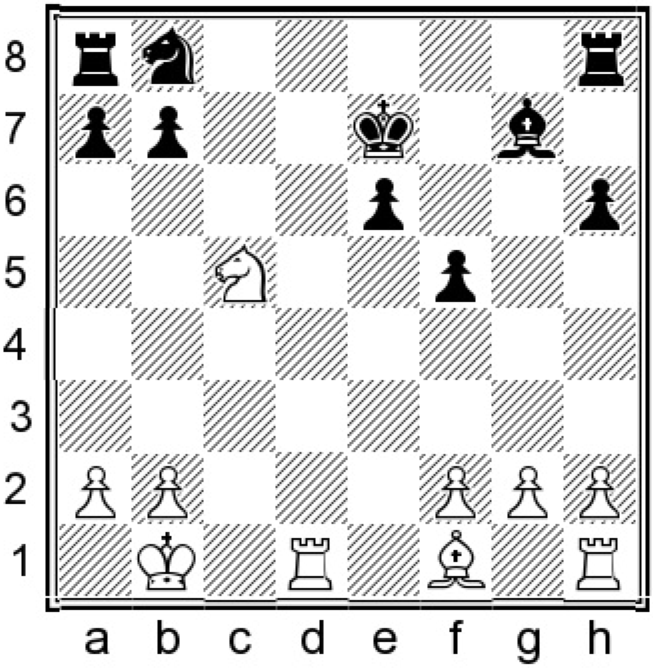
13.♗h4 - 145/131

13...gxf6 14.♘xe4 ♗g7 15.♔b1N

15.♘g3

15...f5 16.♘g3

16.♘c5



16...♖c8! 17.♘xb7 ♘c6 (17...♘d7 18.♗b5 ♘b6=∞) 18.♘c5 (18.b3? a5⩱→; 18.♖d2 ♖ab8 19.♘c5 ♘d4=∞ ↑) 18...♗d4 (18...♘d4!?) 19.♘d3 (19.♘a6 ♗xf2 20.g4∞) 19...♘a5!?=∞

16...♘c6 17.♗c4

17.♘h5 ♗d4 18.♘f4 ♖hd8 19.♗c4 e5 20.♘d5+ ♔d6 21.♘e3 (21.♘c3 e4 22.f3 ♔e5 23.fxe4 fxe4 24.♖he1 ♗xc3 25.bxc3 ♖xd1+ 26.♖xd1 ♖f8=) 21...♖f8 22.♖d2 ♖ad8=; 17.♗d3 ♖hd8 18.♖he1 ♔f7=

17...♖hd8 18.♖he1

18.♖de1 ♘d4=

18...♖xd1+ 19.♖xd1 ♖d8

19...♘d4!?

20.♖xd8 ♘xd8= 21.♘e2 ♘c6 22.♘f4 ♘d4

22...♘a5=; 22...♗e5 23.♘g6+ ♔f6 24.♘xe5 ♘xe5 25.♗e2 ♘g4 26.♗xg4 fxg4 27.♔c2 ♔f5=

23.♔c1 ♔d6 24.h3 b5 25.♗d3 a6 26.g4 ♗f6 27.♘e2 ♘xe2+ 28.♗xe2 ♗d4 29.gxf5 exf5 30.f3 ♔e5 31.♗d3 ♔f4 32.b3 ♗e3+ 33.♔d1 ♗d4 34.♔e2 ♗c5 35.a4 bxa4 36.bxa4 a5 37.♗c2 ♗b6 38.♗d3 ♗a7 39.♗c2 ♗b6 40.♗d3 ♗c5 41.♗c2 1/2-1/2

153. * D41**
Sarana, Alexey (2649) - Praggnanandhaa, Rameshbabu (2618)
Riga 150/153, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 c5 5.cxd5 ♘xd5 6.e4 ♘xc3 7.bxc3 cxd4 8.cxd4 ♗b4+ 9.♗d2 ♗xd2+ 10.♕xd2 O-O 11.♗c4 ♘d7 12.O-O b6 13.♖fe1 ♗b7 14.♖ad1 ♖c8 15.♗b3 ♖e8

15...h6 16.♖e3 ♖e8 17.h3 ♘f6 18.♖de1N (18.♕e2) 18...♕c7 19.a4 ♖ed8 20.♕b2 ♕e7 21.♕d2 a5 22.d5 exd5 23.exd5 ♕b4∓ Khademalsharieh,S (2494)-Abdusattorov,N (2627) chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 150/ (153) 2021

16.♖e3

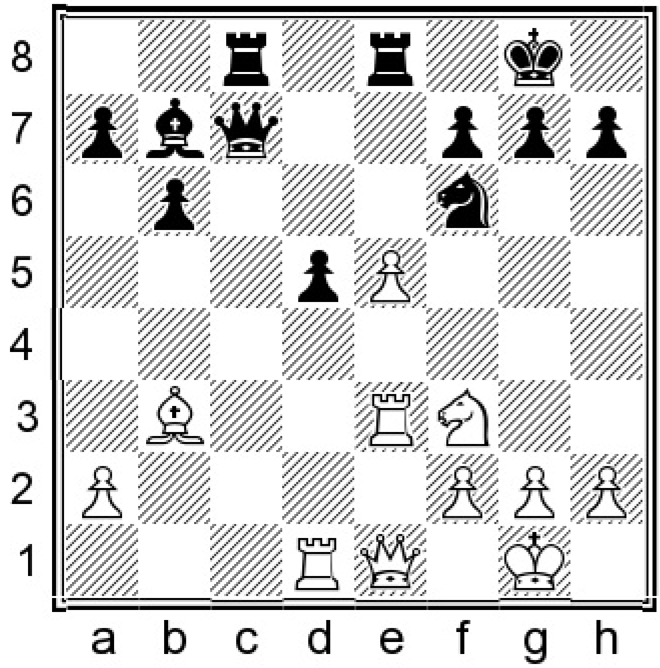
16.d5 - 143/138

16...♘f6 17.♕e1!?

17.d5 exd5 18.exd5 ♕d6=

17...♕c7 18.h3

18.♘e5 ♘d7 19.♘xd7 (19.♗a4? ♘xe5 20.♗xe8 ♘c4∓) 19...♕xd7 20.h4±; 18.d5 exd5 19.e5



19...♘e4 (RR19...♘g4!? 20.♖e2 ♗a6 21.♖c2 ♕b8 22.♖xc8 ♗xc8 23.♖xd5 ♗e6 24.♖d4 ♗xb3 25.axb3 ♘xe5 26.♘xe5 f6 27.f4 fxe5 28.♖e4 ♕d6= Paunovic, Tomislav) 20.♘d4 ♖xe5?N (20...a6 21.h4 ♖cd8 22.f3 ♘c5 23.h5 ♘e6 24.♘f5 d4 25.♖ed3 ♘c5 26.♖xd4 ♖xd4 27.♖xd4 ♘xb3 28.♕g3 g6 29.axb3+-; 20...♕c5) 21.f3 ♖h5 22.h4 ♘d6 23.g4 ♖h6 24.♘f5 ♖f8 25.♘xh6+ gxh6 26.♗xd5+- Abdusattorov,N (2634) -Alavi,S (2432) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(153) 2021

18...h6 19.d5N

19.♘e5 b5=

19...exd5

19...e5 20.d6 ♕d7 21.♘h4+-

20.e5!

20.exd5 ♕c5=

20...♘d7N

20...♘e4 - 150/ (153) 21.♗xd5 (21.♘d4!? ♕c5 22.♔h2±) 21...♗xd5 22.♖xd5 ♘c5 23.♘d4 ♖cd8 24.♘b5 ♕c6= Chandra,A (2510)-Ruiz Castillo,J (2499) lichess.org (Int.-blitz) 150/(153) 2021

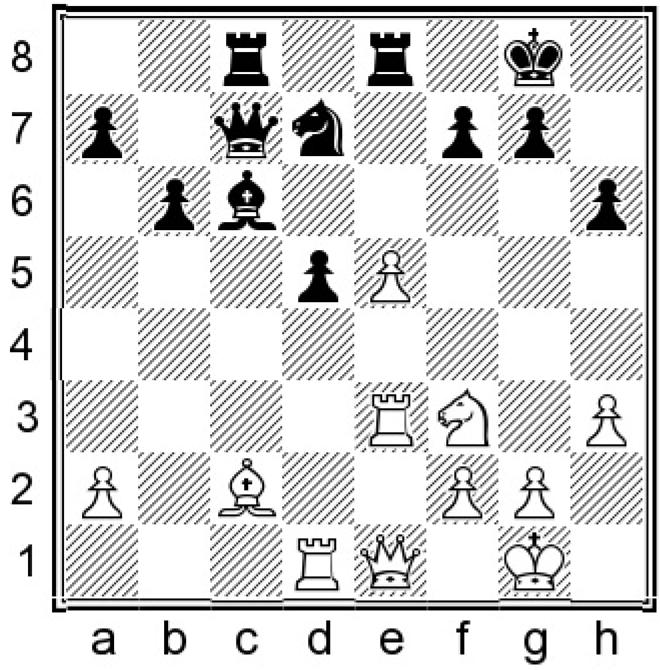
21.♗a4

21.e6 fxe6! 22.♖xe6 ♘f6=

21...♗c6

21...♖e7 22.♗xd7 ♕xd7 23.♘d4±

22.♗c2

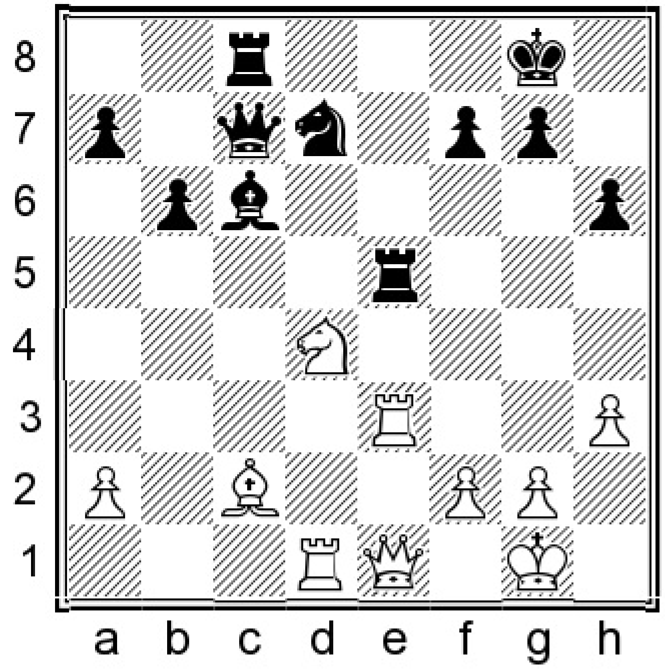


22.♗xc6 ♕xc6 23.♘d4 ♕g6 24.♘b5 ♖c2= Paunovic, Tomislav

22...d4?

22...♖e7 23.♖c1 ♘c5 24.♘d4 ♗d7 25.f4±; 22...♗b5 23.♖d2 (23.♘d4 ♖xe5 (23...♘xe5 24.♘xb5 ♕xc2 25.♖xd5 (25.♘d6? ♘f3+ 26.gxf3 ♕g6+-+) 25...f6 26.♘d6 ♖cd8 (26...♖ed8 27.♘xc8+-) 27.♖d2 ♕g6 28.♘xe8+-) 24.♘xb5 ♖xe3 25.♗h7+ ♔xh7 26.♕xe3 ♕c2 27.♖xd5 ♘f6-+) 23...♘f8=; 22...♘f8 23.♘d4 ♗d7= (23...♘e6 24.♘f5 d4 25.♘xd4 ♗d5=)22...a5!?

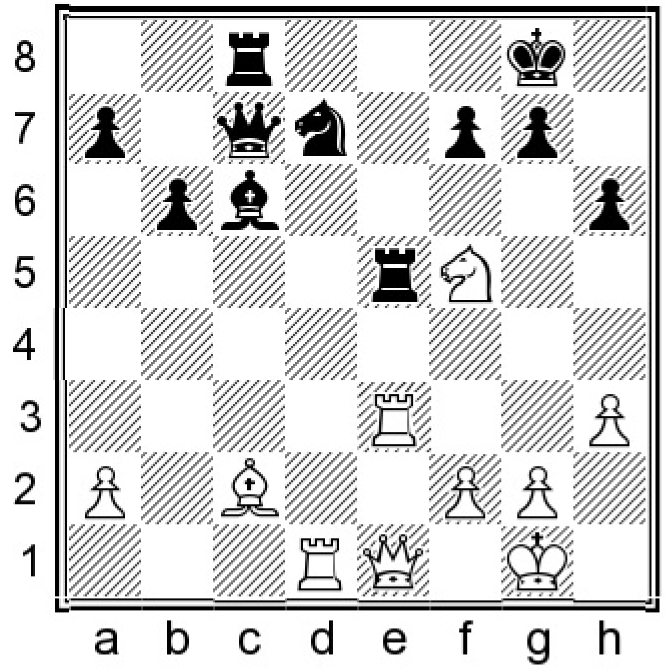
23.♘xd4 ♖xe5



8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

23...♘xe5? 24.♘xc6 (24.♘f5!?±) 24...♕xc6 25.♗f5 ♘c4 26.♗d7!+-

24.♘f5!



8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

24.♘xc6 ♕xc6 (24...♖xe3? 25.♕xe3 ♕xc6 26.♗f5) 25.♖xe5 ♘xe5 26.♗b3 (26.♗f5 ♖e8) 26...♖e8∓

24...♖ce8?!

24...♖xe3 25.♕xe3 ♖f8 (25...♗xg2 26.♔xg2 ♕xc2 27.♘e7++-; 25...♖b8 26.♖d6!+- (26.♕c3+-); 25...♔f8 26.♕e7+ ♔g8 27.♘d6 ♖f8 28.♗b3 ♔h7 29.♖c1+-; 25...♘e5 26.♘d6 ♗xg2 27.♘xc8+-) 26.♘xh6+ gxh6 27.♕xh6+-; 24...♗xg2 25.♔xg2 ♕xc2 26.♖xe5 ♘xe5 27.♕xe5+-; 24...♗b5! 25.♖d2

♖xe3 (25...♖f8 26.♕a1! f6 (26...♕c5 27.♖xd7+-) 27.♖g3+-; 25...♖ce8 26.♘d6 ♖xe3 27.fxe3 ♖e5 28.♘xb5 ♖xb5 29.♗a4+-) 26.♕xe3 ♘e5 27.♖d5! g6 (27...♖e8 28.♖xb5 ♘f3+ 29.gxf3 ♖xe3 30.♘xe3±) 28.♘xh6+ ♔g7 29.♘f5+ gxf5 30.♖xb5±

25.♕c3! [×Bc6, Re5, g7] **25...♘f6**

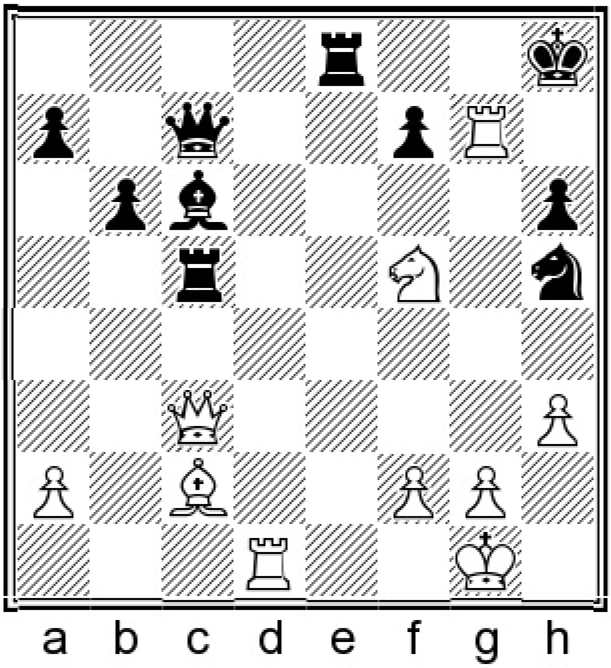
25...f6 26.♕c4+ ♖8e6 (26...♔h8 27.♕f7 ♖g8 28.♘xh6 ♖f8 29.♕g8+) 27.♖xe5 ♕xe5 28.♘e7+ ♔f7 29.♘xc6+-; 25...♘c5 26.♖g3 ♘e6 27.♘xg7 ♘xg7 28.f4+-

26.♖g3 ♘h5

26...g6 27.♘xh6+ ♔g7 28.♘xf7! ♔xf7 29.♗xg6+ ♔f8 30.f4 ♖5e6 31.♗xe8 ♔xe8 32.f5 ♖e5 33.♖g6+-

27.♖g4 ♔f8

27...♖c5 28.♖xg7+ ♔f8 (28...♔h8

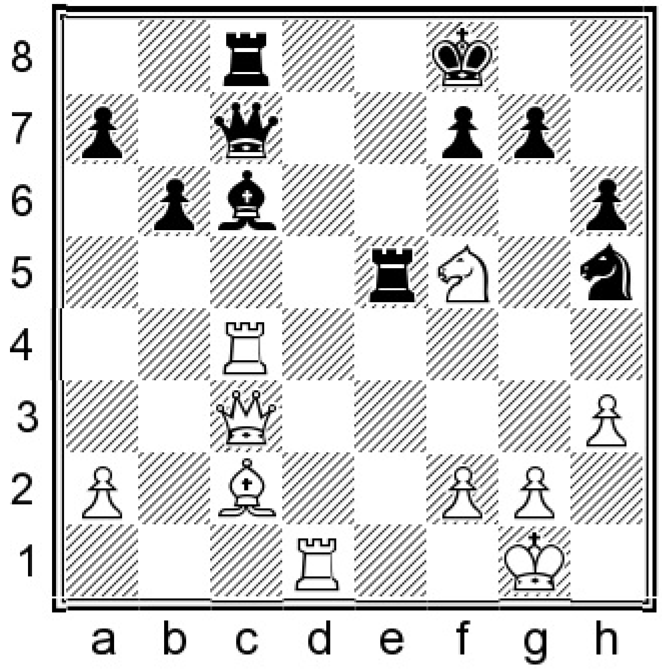


29.♖d6! ♕xd6 (29...♖e6 30.♖xe6 fxe6 31.♕xc5! ♕xg7 32.♕xc6 exf5 33.♕c8+ ♕g8 34.♕xf5+-) 30.♖h7+ ♔xh7 31.♘xd6+ ♔g8 32.♕d3 ♖e1+ 33.♔h2 ♘f6 34.♘f5+-) 29.♖h7 f6 30.♖h8+ ♔f7 31.♘xh6+; 27...a6 28.♘xg7 ♘xg7 29.f4+-; RR27...♖8e6 28.f4 ♖xf5 29.♗xf5+- Paunovic,Tomislav

28.♖c4!

28.♘xg7 ♘xg7 29.f4 f5 30.fxe5 fxg4 31.♖f1+ ♔g8 32.♕d3 ♘e6 33.♖f6+- Paunovic,Tomislav

28...♖c8



28...♖c5 29.♖xc5 bxc5 30.♕xc5+ ♔g8 31.♘d4 (31.♖d6?? ♖e1+ 32.♔h2 ♖h1+ 33.♔xh1 ♗xg2+-+) 31...♘f4 32.♕xc6+-

29.♖d6

29.♖xc6 ♕xc6 30.♖d8+ ♖e8 31.♕xc6 ♖xc6 32.♖xe8+ ♔xe8 33.♗a4+-; 29.♘d6! ♖ee8 (29...b5 30.♖xc6 ♕xc6 31.♕xe5 ♕xc2 32.♕xh5+-) 30.♘xe8 ♔xe8 31.♖xc6 ♕xc6 32.♗a4+-

29...♖e6 30.♖xe6 fxe6 31.♕a3+!

31.♕a3+ ♔e8 (31...♔g8 32.♘e7+ ♔f7 33.♘xc8 ♕xc8 34.♕c3+-) 32.♖xc6+-

1-0

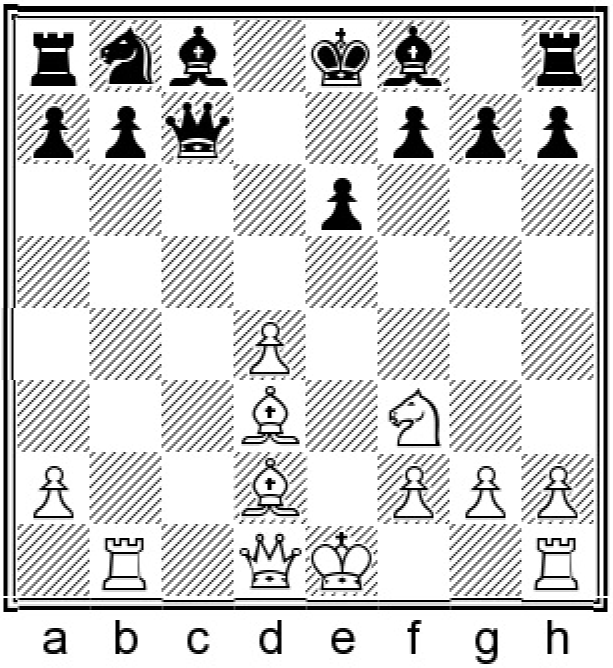
154. ** D42
Carlsen, Magnus (2855) - Duda, Jan Krzysztof (2756)
chess24.com (Int.-m/1-rapid) 150/154, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.♘f3 c5 6.e3 cxd4 7.exd4 ♘xc3!? 8.bxc3 ♕c7 9.♖b1!?

9.♗d2 ♘d7 10.♗d3 ♗d6 (10...b6 - 127/151) 11.O-O b6 12.♖e1 ♗b7 13.♘g5 ♘f6 14.♗b5+ ♗c6 15.♕f3 ♖c8 16.♘xe6 fxe6 17.♖xe6+ ♔d8 18.♗xc6 ♕xc6 19.♗f4 ♕xf3 (19...♘e8 20.♕g4 ♖c7∞) 20.♖xd6+ ♔e7 21.gxf3 ♖xc3 22.♖e1+ ♔f7∞; 9.♕b3; 9.♕c2

9...♘d7

9...♕xc3+?! - 150/(154) 10.♗d2 ♕c7 11.♗d3



11...♗d6 (11...♗e7 12.O-O O-O (12...♘c6 13.♕c2⯹) 13.♕e2 ♘c6 14.♖fc1 ♕d8 15.♖c4 ♗f6 16.h4→) 12.O-O ♘d7 13.♕e2 O-O 14.♖b5 ♖e8 15.♖h5 ♘f6 16.♖h4 e5 (16...g6!?) 17.♖c1 ♕b8 18.dxe5 ♗xe5 19.♖xc8 ♕xc8 20.♘xe5± Salem,A (2682)-Barp,A (2377) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/ (154) 2020

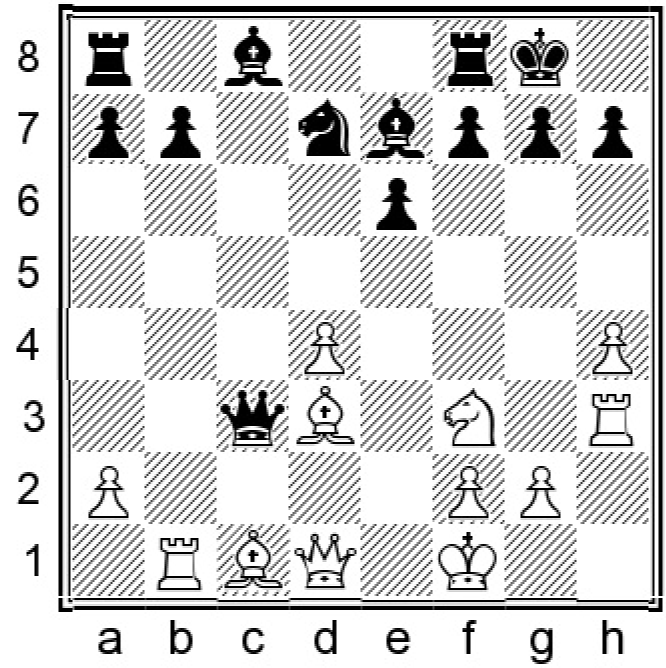
10.♗d3N

10.c4 - 150/(154) 10...b6 11.♗d3 ♗b7 12.O-O ♗d6 13.♖b5 h6 14.♖e1 a6?! (14...O-O 15.♖h5 ♗f4 16.♗xf4 ♕xf4 17.♘e5 ♘xe5 18.♖hxe5 ♖ac8=) 15.♖h5 ♘f6? (15...O-O-O 16.♗b2 ♗b4 17.♖e2⩲) 16.♖h4 ♔f8 17.♘e5 ♖d8 18.♕e2 ♔g8 19.♖f4 ♗b4 20.♖d1 ♗e7 21.♗b2 g5 22.♖g4 ♘xg4 23.♘xg4 h5 24.♘e5 ♖h6 25.♖e1 ♗b4 26.♕e3 ♕e7 27.♖e2± Salem,A (2682)-Barp,A (2374) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(154) 2020

10...♕xc3+ 11.♔f1 ♗e7?

11...♗d6 12.h4 ♕c7 13.♖h3 b6∞

12.h4! [Δ Rh3] **12...O-O 13.♖h3**



13...♘f6??

13...♕c7 14.♗g5 f6 15.♖c1 ♕d8 16.♕c2 fxg5 17.♗xh7+ ♔h8 18.hxg5 ♖xf3! 19.gxf3 ♗xg5 20.♗f5+ ♗h6 21.♗xe6 ♕f6 22.♗g4 ♘b6∞

14.♘e5! ♕a5 15.♖g3 ♔h8 16.♗g5 h6 17.♗xh6! gxh6 18.♕f3

18.♕f3 ♕d2 19.♖d1 Δ Qf4

1-0

155. D43
Gozzoli, Yannick (2602) - Topalov, Veselin (2730)
Cap d'Agde (rapid) 150/155, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.♘f3 e6 5.♗g5 h6 6.♗xf6 ♕xf6 7.e3 ♘d7 8.♗d3 g6 9.O-O ♗g7 10.e4 dxc4 11.♗xc4 O-O 12.♖e1 e5

12...♕e7 13.e5 - 117/144

13.d5 ♖d8 14.♕c2 ♘b6 15.♗b3 ♗d7 16.♖ad1 ♖ac8 17.♖e3N

17.dxc6

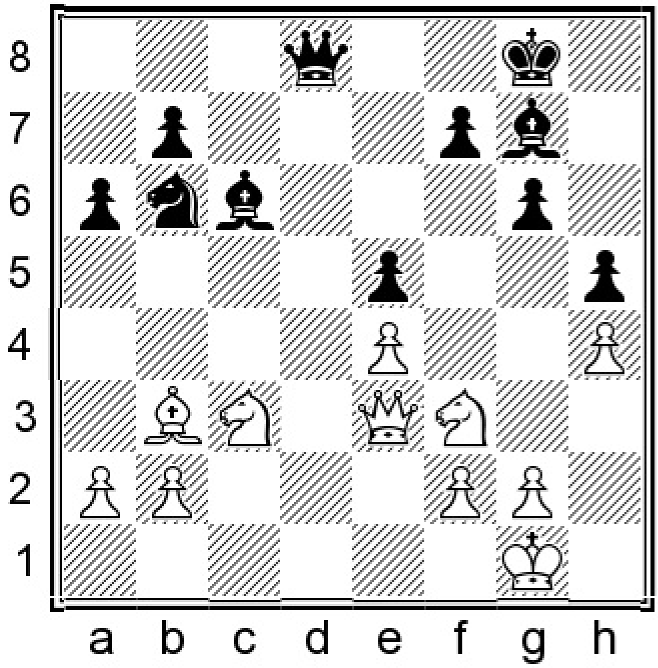
17...h5

⌓17...c5 18.♕b1 (18.♕d2 c4 19.♗c2 h5 20.♖ee1 ♗g4↑; 18.a4 c4 19.♗a2 a5 20.♘d2 ♕d6↑) 18...c4 19.♗c2 h5 20.♘d2 ♗h6 21.♖f3 ♕g7 22.h3 g5 23.g4!? hxg4 24.hxg4 ♗xg4 25.♖g3 ♗h5 (25...♗xd1 26.♗xd1=∞) 26.♔g2=∞

18.dxc6 ♗xc6 19.♖ed3 ♖xd3 20.♕xd3 ♕e7

20...♗e8!?; 20...♗f8!?

21.♕e3 ♖d8 22.♖xd8+ ♕xd8 23.h4 a6?!



23...♕f8=

24.♕c5! ♗e8 25.♘xe5 ♘d7 26.♘xd7 ♕xd7 27.♘d5?

27.♗d5±

27...♔h7 28.♘c7 ♕c6

28...♕d2!? 29.♘xe8 ♗d4 30.♘f6+□ ♗xf6 (30...♔g7 31.♘xh5+ gxh5 (31...♔h7 32.♕g5 (32.♕e7) 32...♗xf2+ 33.♔h2 ♕xg5 34.hxg5 gxh5 35.♗xf7 h4 36.♔h3) 32.♕g5+ ♕xg5 33.hxg5 h4) 31.♕d5 ♕c1+ 32.♗d1 ♔g7=

29.♕xc6 ♗xc6= 30.♗xf7 ♗xe4 31.b3 ♗e5 32.♘e6 ♗b1 1/2-1/2

156. D45
Goryachkina, Aleksandra (2602) - Motylev, Alexander (2624)
Russia (ch) 150/156, 2021

1.c4 c6 2.♘f3 d5 3.d4 ♘f6 4.♘c3 e6 5.e3 ♘bd7 6.♕c2 ♗d6 7.b3 O-O 8.♗e2 b6 9.O-O ♗b7 10.♗b2 ♕e7 11.♖fe1 ♖fe8 12.e4

12.♖ad1 - 145/133

12...♘xe4 13.♘xe4 dxe4 14.♕xe4 ♗b4 15.♖ed1 ♗a3 16.♗xa3 ♕xa3 17.♘e5N

17.c5; 17.♕f4

17...♘xe5

17...♖ad8!?

18.dxe5 ♖ad8 19.♗f3

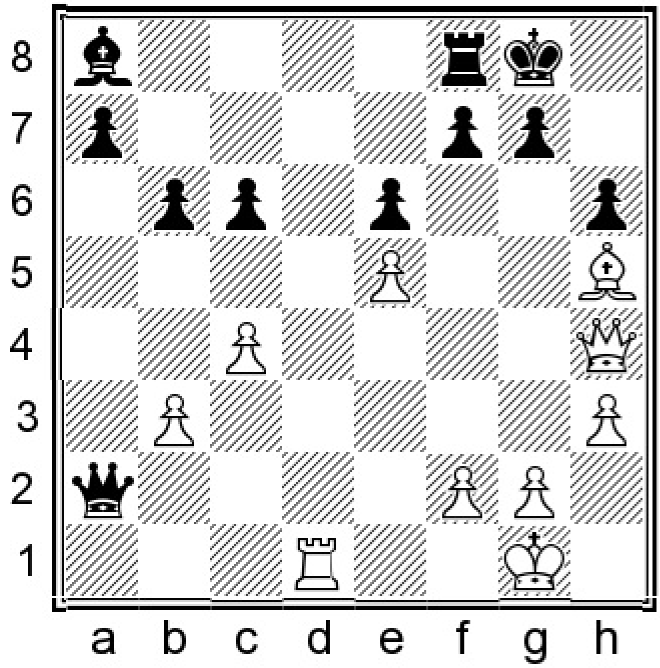
19.♕h4 ♕f8 20.♗f3±

19...♗a8

19...♕e7!?; 19...h6!?

20.♕h4 ♕f8

20...♖xd1+ 21.♖xd1 h6 22.h3± Δ♕xa2? 23.♗h5! ♖f8



24.♕f4!! g6 (24...♕xb3 25.♗xf7+ ♔h7 26.♖d7 ♕b1+ 27.♔h2+-) 25.♕xh6! ♕xb3 26.♖d4 ♕b1+ 27.♗d1 ♕b4 28.♔f1! ♕b1 29.f3 c5 30.♖h4 ♕xd1+ 31.♔f2 ♕d4+ 32.♖xd4 cxd4 33.h4+-

21.h3 h6 22.♗e4?!

22.a4!?

22...f5?!

22...♖e7!

23.exf6

23.♗f3

23...♕xf6 24.♕g3

24.♕xf6 gxf6 25.c5↑

24...c5 25.♗g6!? ♖f8 26.♖ab1

26.h4!?

26...♗c6 27.♖xd8 ♕xd8?!

27...♖xd8=

28.♖e1 ♖f6?!

28...♕f6

29.♖e3

29.♗h5!?

29...♕e7

⌓29...♗e8

30.a4

30.♗h5!?; 30.♗c2!?

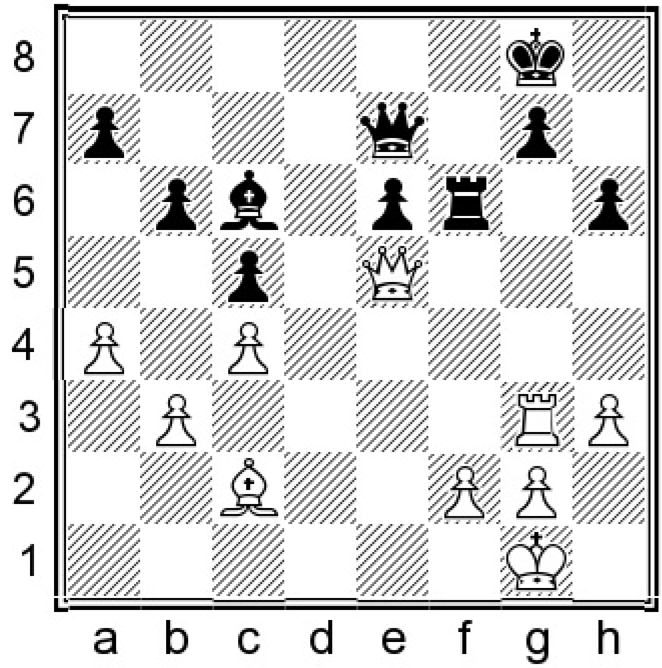
30...♖f8 31.♕e5 ♖f6

31...♗d7!?

32.♖g3

32.♗h5!?; 32.♗f5!?

32...♖f8 33.♗c2 ♖f6?



33...♕f6±

34.♖d3! ♖f8

34...♗b7 35.♖d6 ♕c7 36.a5+-; 34...♖f5 35.♕d6 ♕e8 36.♖g3+-; 34...♗e8!?

35.♖d6+- ♗d7

35...♕f7 36.♕e3

36.a5! bxa5 37.♕xc5 ♗c8 38.♖c6

38.f3!?

38...♕d8

38...♕xc5 39.♖xc5 a4 40.b4

39.♖c7

39.♕xa7?? ♕d2=

39...a6 40.♔h2 ♗d7?! 41.♕a7 1-0

157. * D48
Moranda, Wojciech (2622) - Van den Doel, Erik (2599)
chess.com (ol-rapid) 150/157, 2021

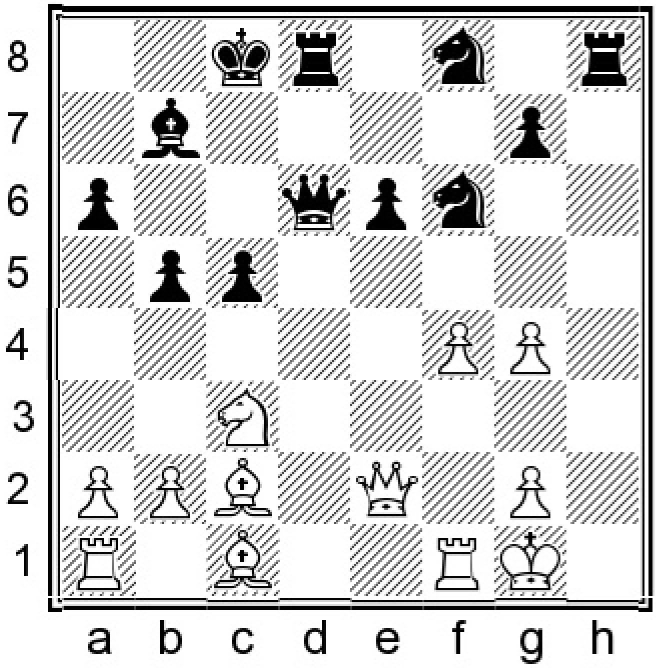
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.e3 e6 5.♘f3 ♘bd7 6.♗d3 dxc4 7.♗xc4 b5 8.♗d3 ♗b7 9.O-O a6 10.e4 c5 11.d5 ♕c7 12.♗c2

12.♕e2 c4 13.♗c2 ♗d6 14.♖e1 (14.dxe6 - 87/399; 14.♗g5 - 75/411) 14...♘e5 15.♘xe5 ♗xe5 16.f4 ♗d4+ 17.♔h1 e5 18.♕f3 O-O 19.♘e2 ♘d7 20.f5N (20.♕h3) 20...a5 (20...f6 21.♖d1 ♗c5 22.b3 (22.h4!?) 22...cxb3 23.♗xb3 ♗d6 24.g4 a5 25.a4 bxa4 26.♗xa4 ♘c5 27.♘g3 ♘xa4 28.♖xa4 h6 29.h4 ♕c2 30.♖a1 ♖ac8 31.♗d2 a4 32.♖ac1 ♕a2 33.g5 hxg5 34.hxg5 fxg5 35.♖a1 ♕c2 36.♖ac1=) 21.♕g3 ♕b6 22.♘xd4 exd4 23.♗d1 ♘c5 (23...♔h8 24.b3 a4 25.bxc4 bxc4 26.♗f4 f6 27.h3 ♖fc8 28.♗f3 c3 29.♖ab1 ♕a6 30.♗e2 ♕a7=) 24.♗f3!± Timofeev,A-Tobor,M corr 150/ (157) 2021

12...♗d6 13.dxe6 fxe6 14.♘g5 ♘f8 15.f4 O-O-O 16.♕e2 h6 17.e5

17.♘f3 - 88/387

17...hxg5 18.exd6 ♕xd6 19.h3!? g4! 20.hxg4



20...♖h4N

20...g5; 20...b4! 21.♖d1 ♕c7 22.♖xd8+ ♕xd8 23.♘d1 ♖h4! (23...♘d5 24.♘f2 ♕h4 25.♗e4 ♕h2+ 26.♔f1 ♘d7 27.a3 ♘xf4 28.♗xb7+ ♔xb7 29.♕e4+ ♘d5 30.axb4 ♖f8 31.bxc5 ♘xc5 32.♕d4 ♘d7 33.♕xg7 ♔b8 34.♕h6 (34.♕xd7 ♕g3-+) 34...♕g3 35.♕d2 ♕h2 36.♕h6=) 24.♕f2 ♘e4 25.♕f3 ♕d6 26.♗xe4 ♗xe4 27.♕xe4 ♕xd1+ 28.♔f2 ♖xg4 29.♕c6+ ♔d8 30.♕f3 (30.♕xc5 ♘d7 31.♕e3 ♔e7∓) 30...♕xf3+ 31.♔xf3 ♖h4 32.♗e3 ♘d7 33.a3 a5 34.axb4 axb4 35.♖a6 ♔e7 36.♖c6 ♖h5 37.♔f2 (37.g4 ♖h3+ 38.♔e2 ♖h2+ 39.♔d3 ♖xb2 40.♗xc5+ ♘xc5+ 41.♖xc5 ♖g2∓) 37...♖d5∓

21.♖d1?

21.♗e3! ♘8d7 22.g5 ♘d5 23.♗e4 ♖dh8 24.♕d2 ♘7b6∓

21...♕c6?

21...♕b6! 22.♖xd8+ ♕xd8 23.♗e3 ♘8d7 24.♗f2 ♖xg4 25.♗e4 ♕c7 26.♗e3 e5 27.♗xb7+ ♕xb7 28.fxe5 ♘xe5 29.♗xc5 ♕c6 30.♗e3 ♘f3+ 31.♔f1 ♘h4 32.♖c1 ♖xg2 33.♘d1 ♕xc1 34.♗xc1 ♖xe2 35.♔xe2 ♔d7∓

22.♖xd8+ ♔xd8 23.♗e3?

23.g5! ♘g4 24.♗e4 ♕d7 25.♗e3 ♘xe3 26.♕xe3 ♗xe4 27.♘xe4 ♕d4 28.♕xd4+ cxd4 29.g3±

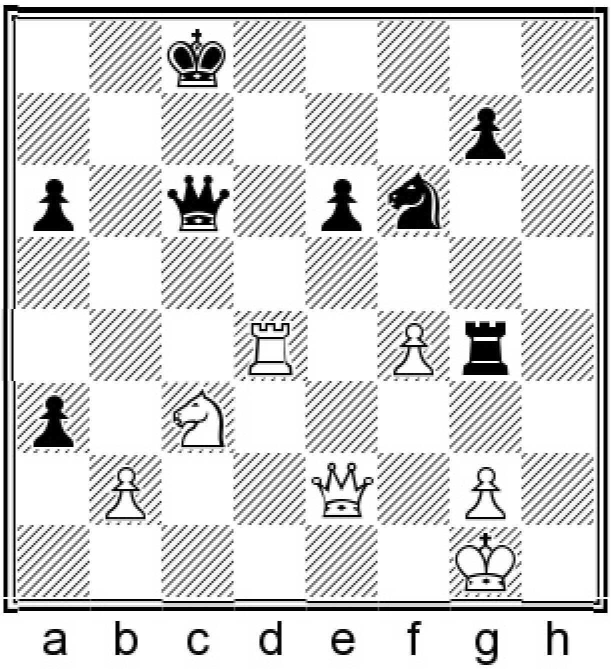
23...♖xg4?

23...♘8d7 24.g5 ♘h5 25.♕f2 ♘xf4 26.♗e4 ♘h3+ 27.gxh3 ♖xe4 28.♘xe4 ♕xe4 29.♔h2 ♘e5 30.♖f1 ♘f3+ 31.♕xf3 ♕xf3 32.♖xf3 ♗xf3 33.♗xc5=

24.♖d1+ ♘8d7 25.♗e4 ♕c7 26.♗xb7 ♕xb7 27.♗xc5 ♔c8 28.♗d4 ♕c6 29.a4?!

29.♗e3 ♔d8! (29...♔b7 30.♖c1 ♔b8 31.b3 e5 32.♕f2±) 30.♖d4 ♔e7 31.♘e4 ♔f8 32.a3±

29...bxa4!= 30.♗xf6 ♘xf6 31.♖d4 a3



32.♖c4??

32.bxa3 e5 33.♖c4 ♖xg2+ 34.♔f1 ♖xe2 35.♖xc6+ ♔d7 36.♖xf6 ♖c2 37.♖f7+ ♔e6 38.♖c7 exf4 39.♔e1 g5 40.♔d1 ♖g2 41.♖c5 g4 42.♘e4 f3 43.♖a5 ♖b2 44.♖g5 ♖g2 45.♖a5=

32...♖xg2+-+ 33.♕xg2

33.♔f1 ♖xe2 34.♖xc6+ ♔b7 35.♔xe2 ♔xc6 36.bxa3 ♘d5-+

33...♕xc4 34.♕a8+ ♔d7 35.♕a7+ ♔e8 36.♕a8+ ♔e7 37.♕b7+ ♘d7 38.♕g2 ♕d4+ 39.♔h1 axb2

39...♘c5 40.f5 axb2 41.♕xb2 exf5

40.♕xb2 ♕xf4 41.♕a3+ ♕d6 0-1

D50-D99

158. D55
Petrosyan, Manuel (2632) - Stankovic, Milos (2421)
Paracin 150/158, 2021

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.♗g5 ♗e7 5.♘f3 O-O 6.e3 b6 7.cxd5 ♘xd5 8.♘xd5 exd5 9.♗xe7 ♕xe7 10.♖c1 ♗b7

10...♗e6 - 101/361

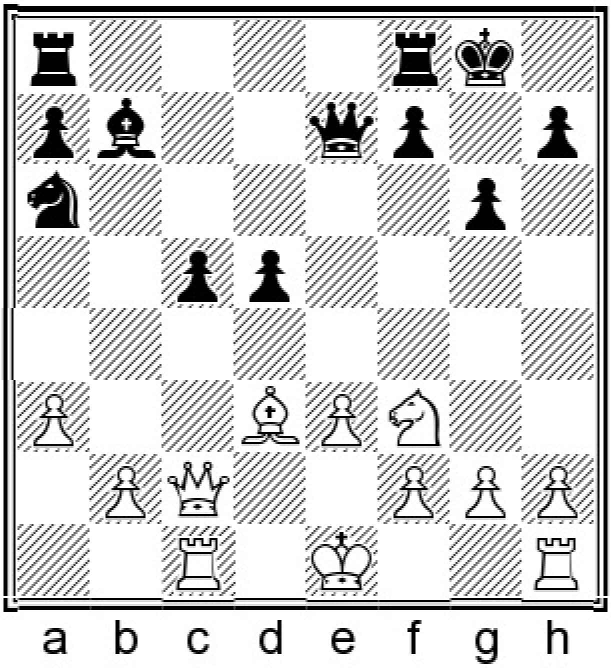
11.♗d3 c5!? 12.dxc5

12.♕c2 g6 13.dxc5 ♖c8!⇄

12...bxc5 13.♕c2 ♘a6 14.a3

14.♗xh7+ ♔h8 15.♗f5 g6 16.♗d3 (16.♗h3?! ♘b4) 16...♘b4 17.♕d2 ♘xa2 18.♖a1 ♘b4 19.O-O d4⇄

14...g6



15.♗xa6!?N

15.O-O c4 16.♗e2 ♘c5 17.♘d4∞

15...♗xa6 16.♕xc5 ♕b7

16...♕d7? 17.♕c6±; ⌓16...♕e4 17.♕d4 ♖ab8 18.b4 ♕f5=∞

17.♕b4 ♕d7 18.♘e5 ♕f5

18...♕e8 19.♘g4 f6 20.♕d4 ♕b5⇄

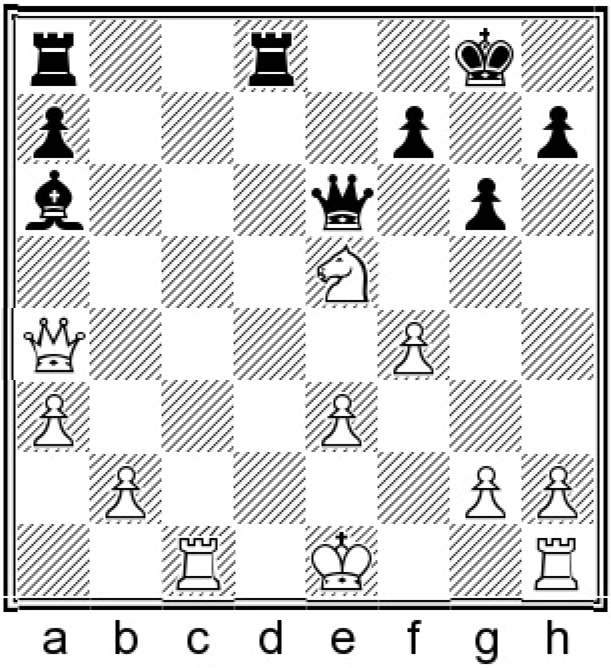
19.f4?!

19.♕f4! ♕xf4 20.exf4 ♖fb8! (20...f6?! 21.♘c6 ♖fe8+ 22.♔d1 ♖e4 23.f3 ♖xf4 24.♖e1±) 21.b4 ♗b5 22.♖c5 a5 23.bxa5 ♗c4! 24.♔d2 ♖b2+ 25.♔c3 ♖b3+ 26.♔d4 ♖xa3=

19...d4!?

19...♖ab8 20.♕d4 ♖fc8=∞

20.♕xd4 ♖fd8 21.♕a4 ♕e6!?



21...♖ac8 22.♔f2 ♖d2+ 23.♔g3 ♗b7 24.♖xc8+ ♕xc8 25.e4 ♖xb2 26.♖d1±

22.♖c2!?

22.♔f2! ♖d2+ 23.♔g3 ♗b7 24.♖hg1 ♖ad8! (24...♖xb2 25.♕d4 ♕b6 26.♕xb6 axb6 27.♘xf7±; 24...f6 25.♕b4 ♖ad8 26.♘g4±) 25.♖c2 h5=∞

22...f6 23.♕c6 ♕b3?

23...♕a2! 24.♕xa6 ♕b1+ 25.♔f2 ♕xc2+ 26.♔f3 fxe5 27.♕e6+ ♔h8 28.♕f6+=

24.♕xa6± ♕xc2 25.♕e6+ ♔g7 26.♕e7+ ♔g8 27.♕f7+ ♔h8 28.♕xf6+ ♔g8 29.♕e6+ ♔g7 30.♕e7+ ♔g8 31.O-O ♖d2 32.♘g4!

32.♕b7? ♖c8 33.h4 ♖c7 34.♕a8+ ♔g7=

32...♖xg2+ 33.♔h1 ♖xg4 34.♕e6+ ♔h8

34...♔g7 35.♕d7+ ♔f8 36.♕xg4 ♕d3 37.♕g2 ♖e8 38.♖e1±

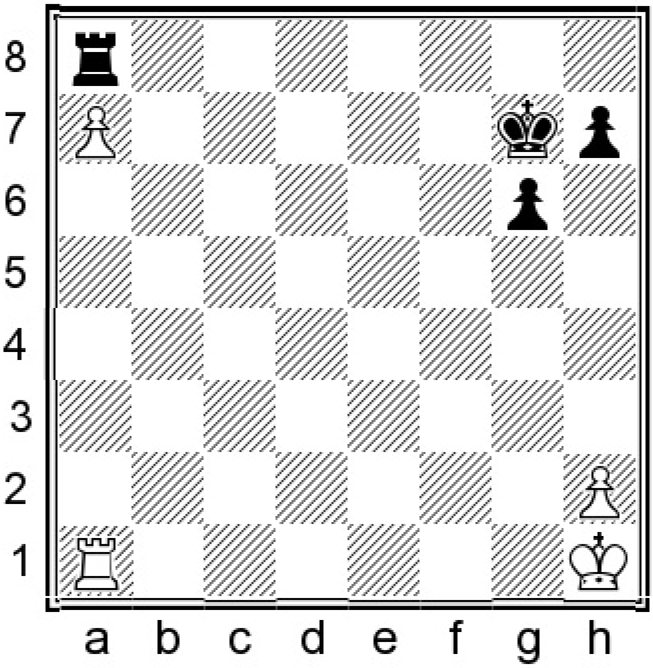
35.♕e5+ ♔g8 36.♕d5+ ♔g7 37.♕xa8 ♕xb2 38.♕xa7+ ♔h6 39.♕a8 ♔g7

39...♕d2 40.♕e4 ♖h4 41.♕g2 ♕d3±

40.♕d5?!

40.♖d1! ♕f6 41.a4+-

40...♖h4 41.♕d4+ ♕xd4 42.exd4 ♖h3 43.♖a1 ♖d3 44.a4 ♖xd4 45.a5 ♖xf4 46.a6 ♖f8 47.a7 ♖a8



48.♖a6! ♔h6

48...♔f7 49.♔g2 ♔e7 50.♔f3 ♔d7 (50...♔d8 51.♔f4 h6 52.♖xg6+-) 51.♔f4 ♔c8 (51...h6 52.♖xg6) 52.♔g5 ♔b7 53.♖a3 ♖xa7 54.♖xa7+ ♔xa7 55.♔h6+-

49.♖a5 ♔g7 50.♔g2 ♔f6 51.♔f3 ♔g7

51...♔e6 52.♔f4 h6 53.♔e4+-

52.♖a6 ♔f7 53.♔f4 ♔f8 54.♔g5 ♔g7 55.♖a3 ♔f7 56.♔h6 ♔f6 57.♖a5 ♔f7 58.♖a6 ♔e7 59.♔xh7 g5 60.♖g6 1-0

159. * D71
Kazakovskiy, Valeriy (2490) - Dragnev, Valentin (2548)
Terme Catez 150/159, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 c6 4.♗g2 d5 5.♕a4 ♗g7 6.cxd5 ♘xd5 7.♘f3 ♘b6

7...♗g4 - 145/140

8.♕a3 ♗xd4N

8...♗g4

9.♘xd4 ♕xd4 10.♗e3 ♕d6N

10...♕a4 - 150/(159) 11.♕c3 f6 12.b3 ♕b5 13.♕c1 ♕a5+ 14.♘c3 ♗e6 15.O-O ♘a6 16.h3 ♖d8 17.♗d2 ♕c5 18.♗e3 1/2 (18) Galiano Martinez,A (2392)-Ristea, T (2411) corr 150/(159) 2021

11.♗c5 ♕c7 12.♘d2 ♘a6 13.♗e3 ♗e6 14.O-O f6

14...♗d5 15.♗f4 ♕d7 16.♘f3 (16.e4 ♗e6 17.♘f3 ♖d8 18.♖fe1±) 16...♗xf3 17.♗xf3 f6 18.♖fd1 ♕f5 19.♖ac1±

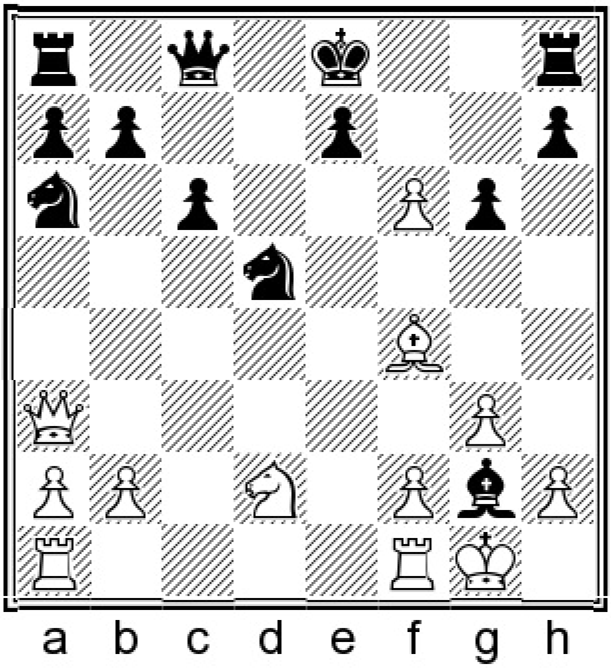
15.♗f4 ♕c8

15...♕d7 16.e4 ♗h3 17.♗xh3 ♕xh3 18.e5 f5 19.♘f3 ♘d5 20.♘g5 ♕h5 21.♘e6 ♔f7 22.♘g5+ ♔f8 23.♘e6+ ♔f7=

16.e4 ♗h3 17.e5 ♗xg2 18.exf6!

18.♔xg2 f5 19.♘f3 ♘d5 20.♗h6 ♘ac7 21.e6 ♕xe6 22.♖fe1 ♕f7 23.♖ad1=∞

18...♘d5?



18...O-O 19.♔xg2 ♖xf6 (19...exf6 20.♘e4 ♕d7 21.♖ad1 ♘d5 22.♗h6 ♖f7 23.♖fe1=∞) 20.♖ae1 ♘d5 21.♗h6=∞

19.♖fe1!

19.♔xg2 ♘xf4+ 20.gxf4 ♕g4+ 21.♔h1 O-O-O! 22.fxe7 ♖xd2 23.♕c3 ♖e8 24.♕xd2 ♕f3+ 25.♔g1 ♕g4+=

19...c5

19...O-O 20.fxe7 ♖e8 21.♔xg2 ♘xf4+ 22.gxf4 ♘c7 23.♖e5 ♕g4+ (23...♕d7 24.♘e4+-) 24.♕g3

♕xg3+ 25.hxg3+-; 19...♕d7 20.♖xe7+! ♘xe7 21.♖e1 O-O-O 22.fxe7 ♗d5 23.exd8=Q+ ♕xd8 24.♕e3 ♘c7 25.♕xa7 ♖e8 26.♖e3±

20.♖xe7+

20.♗d6! O-O 21.fxe7 ♖e8 22.♔xg2 ♕c6 23.♘e4+-

20...♘xe7 21.♖e1 ♗d5?!

21...O-O 22.fxe7 ♗d5 23.exf8=Q+ ♕xf8 24.♘e4 ♘b4 25.♕c3 ♗xe4 26.♖xe4 b6 (26...♘xa2 27.♕c4+ ♕f7 28.♕e2+-) 27.♗g5 ♘d5 28.♕c4 ♕f7 29.♕e2±

22.♖xe7+ ♔d8 23.♘e4 ♖b8

23...♗xe4 24.♕a5+ b6 25.♕d2++-

24.♕a5+ b6 25.♕d2 ♕f5 26.♖e5 1-0

160. D76
Adly, Ahmed (2602) - Shevchenko, Kirill (2632)
Riga 150/160, 2021

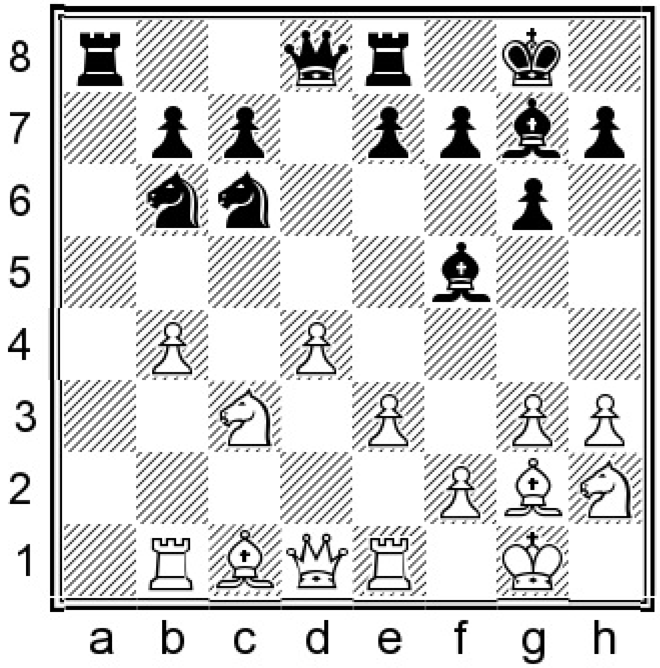
1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.d4 g6 3.c4 ♗g7 4.g3 O-O 5.♗g2 d5 6.cxd5 ♘xd5 7.O-O ♘c6 8.e3 ♘b6 9.♘c3 ♖e8 10.♖e1 a5 11.h3 a4 12.♘h2N

12.♖b1 - 135/148

12...♖a5

12...e5 13.d5 ♘a5 14.e4 ♘ac4 15.♘f3 c6 16.b3 axb3 17.♗g5! f6 18.axb3±; 12...a3 13.♖b1 (13.b3?! e5 14.d5 e4∓) 13...axb2 14.♗xb2 e5 15.d5 ♘a5 16.e4 ♘ac4∞

13.♖b1 ♗d7 14.b4 axb3 15.axb3 ♗f5 16.b4! ♖a8 17.♖b3 ♗e6 18.♖b1 ♗f5



19.b5! ♗xb1 20.bxc6 ♗f5 21.cxb7 ♖a7

21...♖b8 22.♗a3 ♕d7 23.g4 ♗e6 24.♕f3 ♗c4 25.♕c6 e5∞

22.♘g4?!

22.e4! ♗d7 23.e5 ♕b8 (23...c6 24.e6! ♗xe6 25.♗xc6 ♗d7 26.♗f4 ♗xc6 27.b8=Q ♕xb8 28.♗xb8 ♖xb8 29.♘g4±) 24.h4 ♖xb7 25.h5 ♖a7 26.h6 ♗h8 27.♘f3=∞

22...♕d7 23.♕b3

23.♕f3 ♗e6 24.♘e5 ♗xe5 25.dxe5 ♖b8∓

23...♖b8 24.♘e4?!

24.♕b4 ♕d6 25.♕b5 ♗d7 26.♕b2 ♘c4 27.♕e2 ♕a6∓

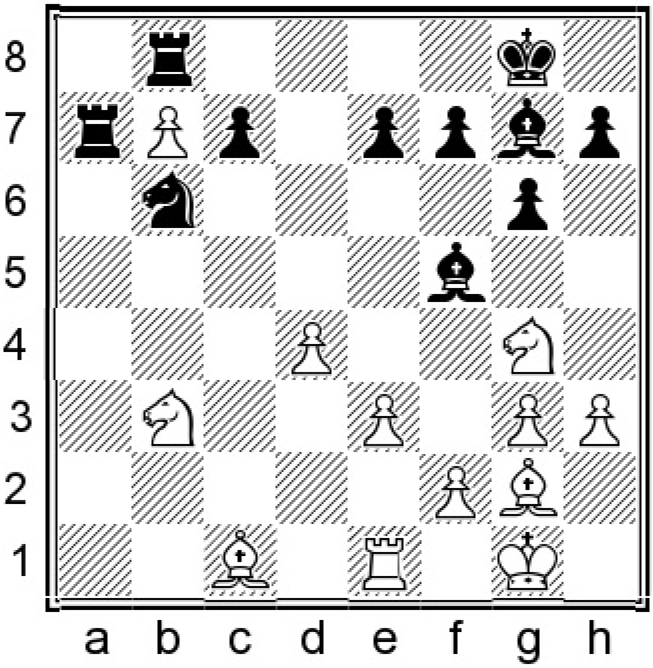
24...♕a4

⌓24...♗xe4 25.♗xe4 e6 26.♘h2 ♘d5-+

25.♘c5

25.♕xa4 ♘xa4 26.♗a3 ♗xe4 (26...h5 27.♘e5 ♗xe5 28.dxe5 ♖axb7 29.♗xe7 ♗xe4 30.♗xe4 ♖b5 31.f4 ♘c3∓) 27.♗xe4 ♘c3 28.♗c5 ♘xe4 29.♗xa7 ♖xb7 30.♖a1 ♖b2∓

25...♕xb3 26.♘xb3



26...♘d7! 27.♘h2?!

27.♗d2 ♖axb7 28.♗xb7 ♖xb7 29.♘a5 ♖b2 30.♗c1 ♖c2 31.♗a3 h5-+

27...♗c2 28.♘d2 ♖a6

28...e6 29.♗c6 ♗a4-+

29.♗b2 c5?

29...c6 30.♖c1 ♗a4 31.♗a3 e6-+

30.♖c1 ♗a4 31.dxc5?

31.♗a3 ♗c6 32.♗xc6 ♖xc6 33.♘b3 ♖a6 34.♘xc5 ♘xc5 35.♖xc5 ♖xb7 36.♖c8+ ♗f8 37.♗c5 f6∞

31...♗xb2 32.c6 ♗xc6 33.♖xc6 ♖xc6 34.♗xc6 ♘c5 35.♘c4 ♘xb7 36.♘xb2 ♘a5 37.♗d5 ♖xb2-+ 38.♘f3 e6 39.♗e4 ♘b3 40.♘e5 ♘c5 41.♗c6 f6 42.♘d7 ♘xd7 43.♗xd7 ♖b6 44.h4 ♔f7 45.♔f1 ♔e7 46.♗a4 ♔d6 47.♗c2 f5 48.♔e1 ♔c5 49.♗d3 ♔b4 50.♔d2 ♖d6 51.♔c2 e5 52.♗e2 e4 53.♗f1 ♖d5 54.♗e2 ♖d7

54...♖a5 55.♔b2 h6 56.♗f1 g5 57.hxg5 hxg5 58.♗e2 ♖a8-+

55.♗f1 ♖d6 56.♗e2 ♔c5 57.♔c3 ♔c6 58.♗c4 ♔d7 59.♗g8 ♔e7 60.♗xh7 ♔f6 61.♗g8 ♖d1 62.♗c4 ♖c1+ 63.♔d4 ♖c2 64.g4 ♖d2+ 0-1

161. D77
Dimic, Pavle (2338) - Vuckovic, Bojan (2576)
Srbija 150/161, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘f3 ♗g7 4.g3 d5 5.♗g2 O-O 6.O-O dxc4 7.♘a3 c3 8.bxc3 c5 9.♖e1 ♘c6 10.e4 cxd4 11.cxd4 ♗g4 12.♗b2 ♘d7 13.♖b1 ♘b6 14.d5 ♘e5

14...♗xb2 - 140/161

15.♕b3 ♗xf3 16.♗xf3 ♘xf3+ 17.♕xf3 ♗xb2 18.♖xb2 ♖c8 19.♕b3

19.h4 ♕d7 (19...♕d6 20.♘b5 (20.♔g2 ♕e5 21.♕e2 f5 22.exf5 ♕xd5+ 23.♕e4 ♖xf5 24.♕xd5+ ♘xd5 25.♖xb7 a6 26.♖b2 ♔f7∞) 20...♕e5 21.♕e2 ♖c4 22.♖b3± (22.♘xa7 ♖xe4! 23.♕xe4 ♕xb2 24.♕xe7 ♘xd5 25.♕e5 ♕xe5 26.♖xe5 ♘c3=)) 20.h5 ♕h3 (20...♘c4? 21.♘xc4 ♖xc4 22.h6±) 21.hxg6 (21.♖b3 ♘d7 22.♖xb7 ♘e5 23.♕h1 ♕g4 24.♖b3 gxh5∞) 21...hxg6 22.e5 ♔g7 23.d6 ♖h8 24.dxe7 ♕h2+ 25.♔f1 ♕h3+ 26.♔g1 ♕h2+=

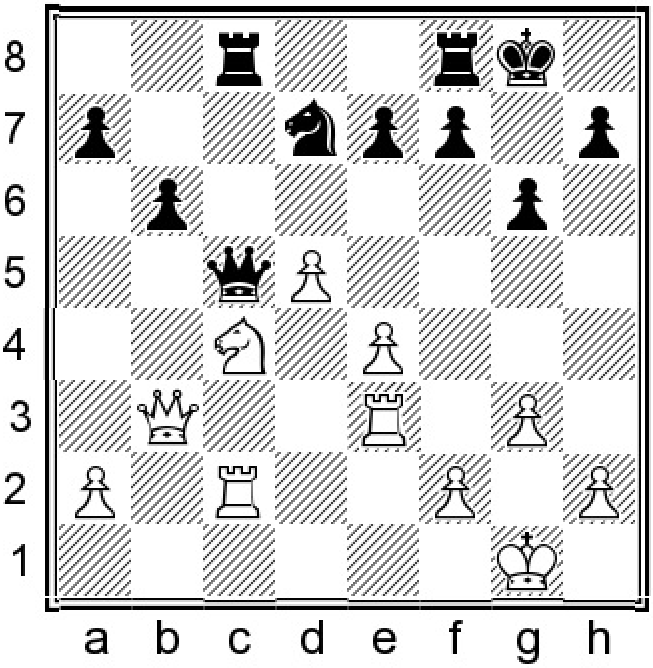
19...♘d7 20.♖c2N

20.♔g2 a6 21.♖c2 b5 22.♖xc8 ♕xc8 23.♕b2 e6∞

20...♕a5 21.♖e3 b6?!

21...♖xc2 22.♕xc2 (22.♘xc2 ♖c8 23.♕xb7 ♖xc2 24.♕xd7 ♖c1+ 25.♔g2 ♕a6! 26.♕xe7 ♕f1+ 27.♔f3 ♖c2 28.♕e8+ (28.♔f4 ♕xf2+ 29.♖f3 ♕xh2 30.♕e8+ ♔g7 31.♕e5+ ♔g8=) 28...♔g7 29.♕e5+ ♔g8=) 22...♘b6 23.♕c7 (23.♖c3 ♕b4 24.♔g2 f5∞) 23...f5 24.♕xe7 (24.exf5 ♕xd5 25.♕xe7 (25.♖e5 ♕d1+ 26.♔g2 ♖xf5 27.♖xf5 gxf5 28.♕xe7 ♕d5+ 29.♔g1 ♕d1+=) 25...♖xf5=) 24...fxe4 25.♕xe4 ♕d2 26.♕e6+ ♖f7 27.♕e8+ ♖f8=

22.♘c4 ♕c5

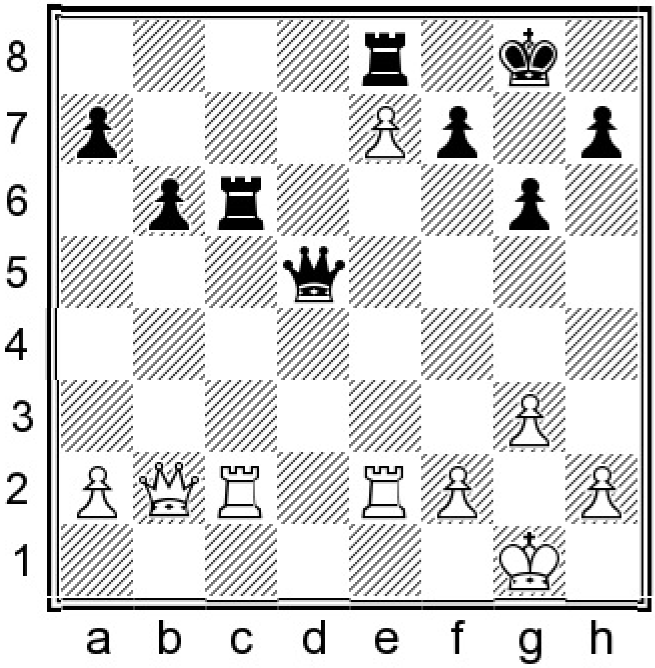


22...♕a6 23.♕b4 ♘e5 (23...♘c5 24.♖a3 ♕b7 25.♖ac3 ♕d7 (25...♘xe4 26.♘a5 ♕d7 27.♖xc8 ♖xc8 28.♖xc8+ ♕xc8 29.♕xe4 bxa5 30.♕xe7±) 26.♘e3±) 24.♖ec3 ♘xc4 25.♖xc4 ♖xc4 26.♖xc4 ♕xa2 27.♖c7±

23.♕b2!± ♘f6?

23...♕c7 24.♖ee2 ♕b8 25.♘e3 ♕e5 26.♕xe5 ♘xe5 27.♔g2±

24.♖ee2! ♕c7 25.♘e5 ♕d6 26.♘c6+- ♖c7 27.e5 ♕xd5 28.exf6 ♖xc6 29.fxe7 ♖e8



30.♖cd2! ♕c5 31.♖d8 ♖c8 32.♖c2 1-0

162. D85
Petrosyan, Manuel (2605) - Ponkratov, Pavel (2659)
Riga 150/162, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.e4 ♘xc3 6.bxc3 ♗g7 7.♗b5+ c6 8.♗a4 b5 9.♗b3 a5

9...b4 - 88/(393)

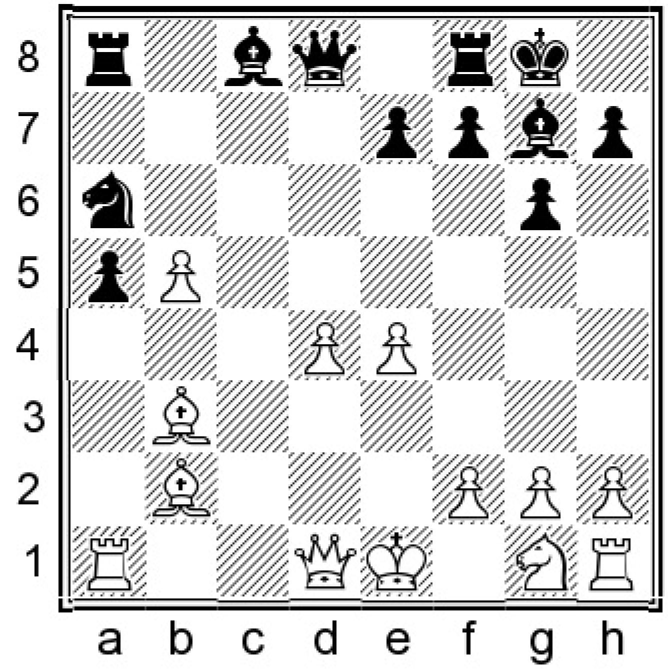
10.a4 b4 11.♗b2 O-O 12.cxb4N

12.♘e2

12...♘a6

12...♗a6 13.♖c1 (13.♘e2 ♘d7 14.♖c1 ♕b6 (14...axb4 15.♖xc6 ♕a5 16.O-O ♖ac8∞) 15.bxa5 ♕xa5+ 16.♗c3 ♕h5∓) 13...♘d7 14.♖xc6 axb4∞

13.b5 cxb5 14.axb5



14...♕b6! 15.♘e2

15.bxa6? ♕b4+ 16.♕d2 (16.♔e2 ♗xa6+ 17.♔f3 ♖fb8-+) 16...♕xb3-+

15...♕xb5 16.♘c3 ♕b7

16...♕b4 17.♖a4 ♕b7 18.♗a1 (18.♖xa5 - 16...Qb7) 18...♗d7∓

17.♖xa5

17.♖b1 ♖b8 18.♗a1 ♕a7 19.O-O ♘b4 20.♕d2 ♕xd4∓

17...♖d8?!

17...♗g4! 18.f3 (18.♕xg4? ♕xb3 19.♗a1 ♘c5-+) 18...♗d7 19.♖a3 ♘c7 20.O-O ♖fb8∓

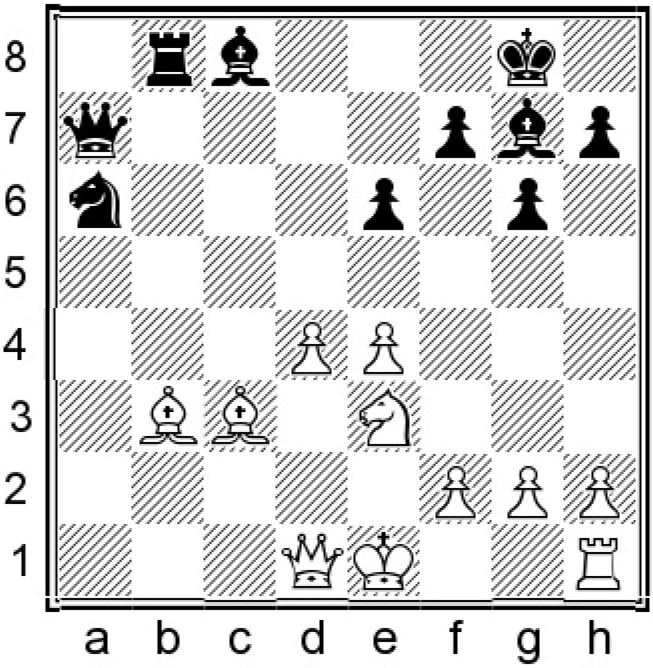
18.♖b5 ♕a7 19.♖d5?!

19.O-O ♘c7 (19...♖xd4 20.♕f3 e6 21.♘e2 ♖d8∞) 20.♖b4 ♗a6 21.♖e1 ♖xd4 22.♕f3 e6∞

19...♖xd5 20.♘xd5 e6! 21.♘e3 ♖b8

21...♕b6 22.♗c3 ♘c7 23.♘c4 ♕c6∓

22.♗c3



22...♘c5! 23.♗c2 ♕c7! 24.♗a1?!

24.O-O ♘xe4 25.♗xe4 ♕xc3 26.d5 ♗a6 27.♖e1 ♖d8 28.h4∞

24...♕a5+

24...♗a6! 25.f3 ♘d3+! 26.♗xd3 ♗xd3 27.♕xd3 ♕c1+ 28.♘d1 ♕xa1 29.O-O ♗xd4+ 30.♔h1 ♕a4∓

25.♔e2 ♗a6+ 26.♔f3 ♘xe4! 27.♗xe4

27.♔xe4? ♗b7+ 28.♔d3 (28.d5 exd5+ 29.♔f4 d4-+) 28...e5 29.dxe5 ♕a6+-+

27...♕h5+ 28.♔g3 ♗e2!= 29.♕c2 ♕g5+ 30.♔h3 ♕h5+ 31.♔g3 ♕g5+ 32.♔h3 ♕h5+ 1/2-1/2

163. D85
Vocaturo, Daniele (2617) - Cheparinov, Ivan (2667)
France 150/163, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.e4 ♘xc3 6.bxc3 ♗g7 7.♘f3 c5 8.♗b5+ ♘c6 9.d5 ♕a5 10.♖b1 ♗xc3+ 11.♗d2 a6 12.♗a4 b5 13.dxc6 bxa4

⌓13...♗xd2+ 14.♘xd2 - 147/(155)

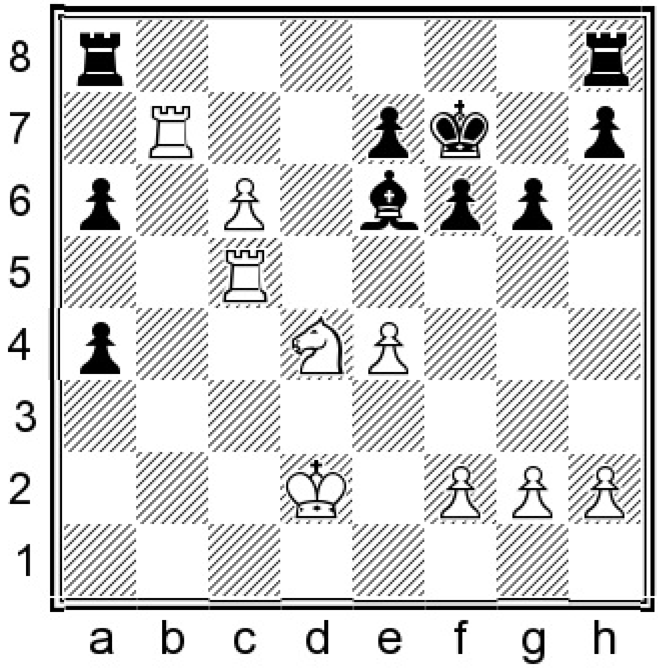
14.♕c1 ♗xd2+ 15.♕xd2 ♕xd2+ 16.♔xd2 ♗e6 17.♖hc1 ♗xa2N

17...O-O-O+ 18.♔e3 ♗xa2 19.♖b7 f6 (19...c4 20.♘e5 ♖d6 21.♖a7!⩲ (21.♖xe7 ♖e6 22.♖a7 ♖xe5 23.♖a8+ ♔c7 24.♖xh8 ♔xc6 25.♖xh7 ♖e7=∞)) 20.♖c2 ♗e6 21.♖xc5 a3 22.♖a5 ♗c4 23.♖xa3 e5 24.♘d2 ♗b5 25.♖a7 f5 26.g3⩲

18.♖b7 f6 19.♖xc5 ♔f7?!

19...e5 20.c7 ♖c8 21.♘e1 ♗e6 22.♖c3 ♔e7 23.♘d3⩲

20.♘d4 ♗e6



20...♖hc8 21.c7 a3 22.♔c3 ♗e6 23.♘xe6 ♔xe6 24.♖d5 a5 25.♔b3±

21.♖a5! ♖hc8

21...♗c8 22.♖b6 ♖a7 23.♖xa4 ♖c7 24.♖a5 e5 25.♘c2 ♖d8+ 26.♖d5±; 21...♗c4 22.♖xa4 ♗b5 23.♖a1 ♖ad8 24.♔e3 ♖d6 25.c7 ♖c8 26.♖c1±

22.♖xa4 a5 23.♖b5 ♖cb8 24.♖xb8 ♖xb8 25.♖xa5+- ♗c8 26.♖a7 ♔e8

26...f5 27.♔e3

27.f4 e5 28.fxe5 fxe5 29.♘f3 1-0

164. *** D87**
Korobov, Anton (2685) - Svidler, Peter (2701)
Struga 150/164, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.e4 ♘xc3 6.bxc3 ♗g7 7.♗c4 c5 8.♘e2 ♘c6 9.♗e3 O-O 10.O-O b6 11.♖c1 ♗b7 12.♗b5 e6

12...♖c8 13.dxc5 (13.♕d2 - 144/(157)) 13...bxc5 - 150/(164) (13...♕c7N 14.cxb6 axb6 15.f3 ♘e5 16.♕b3 ♘c4 17.♗xc4 ♕xc4 18.♕xc4 ♖xc4 19.♗xb6 ♗a6 20.♖c2± Narayanan,S (2624)-Dragnev,V (2569) Biel (open) 150/(164) 2021) 14.♕xd8 ♖fxd8 15.f3 a6N (15...e6) 16.♗a4 ♘e5 17.♖fd1 ♖xd1+ 18.♖xd1 ♘c4 19.♔f2 ♘b2 20.♖b1 ♘xa4 21.♖xb7 e6 22.♖b3 f5 23.exf5 exf5 24.g3 ♖e8 25.♗d2 ♔f7= Buchan,A-Starodubtsev,V corr 150/ (164) 2021

13.dxc5 ♘e5N

13...♕c8 - 150/(164) 14.cxb6 axb6 15.a4 ♕c7 16.♕c2 - 150/(164) (16.♘g3N ♖fc8 17.f4 ♘a5 18.f5

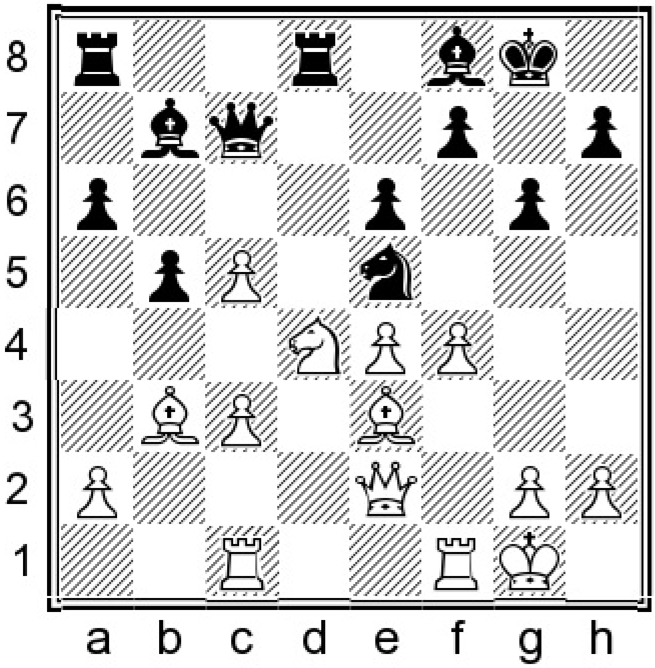
♘c4 19.♗d4 e5 20.♗xc4 (20.♗f2 ♗h6 21.♖a1 ♘d6 22.♗d3 ♕xc3 23.♗xb6 ♗a6=∞) 20...♕xc4 21.♗xb6 ♖xa4 22.fxg6 fxg6 23.♕g4 ♖e8=∞ 24.♖b1 ♗c8 25.♕g5 ♗b7 26.♔h1 ♗xe4 27.♘xe4 ♕xe4 1/2 (27) Rosales,R-Kanbur,U corr 150/(164) 2021) 16...♘e5 17.c4 (17.♖fd1 ♘c4 18.♗f4 ♕c5=∞) 17...♘g4 18.♗f4 ♗e5 19.♗g3 (19.♗xe5 ♕xe5 20.♘g3 h5 21.♖fe1 ♖fd8 22.h3 ♘f6=∞) 19...♗xg3 20.♘xg3 ♕c5 21.♖fd1 ♘e5 22.♕c3 ♖ad8 23.h3 ♗c6 24.♗xc6 ♘xc6=∞ Sauceda Salazar,E-Dudley,M corr 150/ (164) 2021

13...♕c7

14.f3N

14.cxb6 - 150/(164) 14...axb6 15.♕xd8 ♖fxd8 16.♗xb6 ♖db8 17.♗c7 ♖c8 18.♗xe5 ♗xe5 19.a4 ♗xe4 20.♖fd1 ♖c5=∞ 21.♖d2 ♗f6 22.c4 ♗g5 23.f4 ♗d8 24.♖d4 ♗f5 25.♔f1 ♗b6 26.♖d7 ♗c7 1/2 (26) Lubienski,A-Palladino,M corr 150/(164) 2021

14...a6 15.♗a4 b5 16.♗b3 ♕c7 17.♘d4 ♖fd8 18.♕e2 ♗f8 19.f4



19...♘c4! 20.♗xc4 bxc4 21.c6

21.♕xc4?! ♗xc5 22.♘f5 (22.f5 e5 23.fxg6 hxg6 24.♖f6 ♗xe4 25.♘c2 ♗xe3+ 26.♘xe3 ♕xc4 27.♘xc4 ♔g7 28.♖b6 ♖ac8∓) 22...♖ac8 23.♕xc5 ♕xc5 24.♗xc5 ♖xc5 25.♘g3 h5∓

21...♗xc6 22.♕xc4 ♖ac8 23.♕xc6 ♕xc6 24.♘xc6 ♖xc6 25.♔f2 ♗c5

25...♖dc8 26.♖fd1 ♗c5 27.♖d3 ♗xe3+ 28.♔xe3 ♖c4 29.g3 (29.f5 exf5 30.exf5 gxf5=) 29...h6 30.h4 g5 31.hxg5 hxg5=∞

26.♗xc5 ♖xc5=∞ 27.♔e3 ♖dc8 28.♔d3 ♖d8+ 29.♔e3 ♖dc8 30.♔d3 ♖d8+ 31.♔c2 ♖a5 32.♖a1 ♖a4 33.♖fe1 ♖b8 34.g3 h6 35.♖e2 ♔g7

35...g5 36.a3 gxf4 37.gxf4 ♔f8=∞

36.♔d3 ♖d8+ 37.♔e3 ♖c8 38.♔d3 ♖d8+ 39.♔e3 ♖c8 40.♖c1 ♔f6 41.♖cc2 g5 42.♔d3 gxf4 43.gxf4 ♖d8+ 44.♔e3 ♖c8= 45.♔d3 ♖d8+ 46.♔e3 ♖c8 1/2-1/2

165. * D87
Gukesh, Dommaraju (2599) - Svidler, Peter (2701)
Struga 150/165, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.e4 ♘xc3 6.bxc3 ♗g7 7.♗c4 c5 8.♘e2 ♘c6 9.♗e3 O-O 10.O-O b6 11.♕d2 ♗b7 12.♖ac1 e6 13.f3

13.♖fd1 ♖c8 14.♗h6 (14.♗g5 - 145/154) 14...♘a5 15.♗d3 cxd4 16.♗xg7 ♔xg7 17.cxd4 ♕e7 18.♕f4 ♘c6 19.d5N (19.♗b1 e5 (19...♖fd8=) 20.dxe5 ♘xe5=) 19...exd5 20.exd5 ♘e5 21.♘c3 ♘xd3 (21...♕f6 22.♕xf6+ ♔xf6 23.♘e4+ ♔g7=) 22.♖xd3 ♕f6 23.♕d2 ♖fe8 24.d6 ♖cd8 (24...♖ed8 25.d7 ♖c7 26.♘d5 ♖xc1+ 27.♕xc1 ♕f5 28.♕a1+ f6 29.♖f3 ♕xf3! 30.gxf3 ♗xd5 31.♕d4 ♖xd7=) 25.♖d4 (25.d7! ♖e7 26.♘d5 ♗xd5 27.♖xd5±) 25...♖e5∞ Vaisser,A (2494)-Boskovic,D (2457) Struga 150/(165) 2021

13...♖c8 14.h4 cxd4 15.cxd4 ♕d6 16.h5 ♖fd8 17.♖fd1 ♘a5N

17...♕a3; 17...♕e7

18.♗d3 ♘c6

18...♖xc1 19.♖xc1 ♖c8 20.♖xc8+ ♗xc8 21.e5 ♕d7 22.h6 ♗f8 23.♘c3±

19.e5 ♕b4

19...♕a3 20.♖c3 ♕a4 21.♖dc1 ♗f8 22.♗e4±

20.♗e4

20.♖c3! ♕a4 21.♖dc1 ♗f8 22.♗e4 ♗b4 (22...♗a3 23.♕c2±) 23.♕c2±

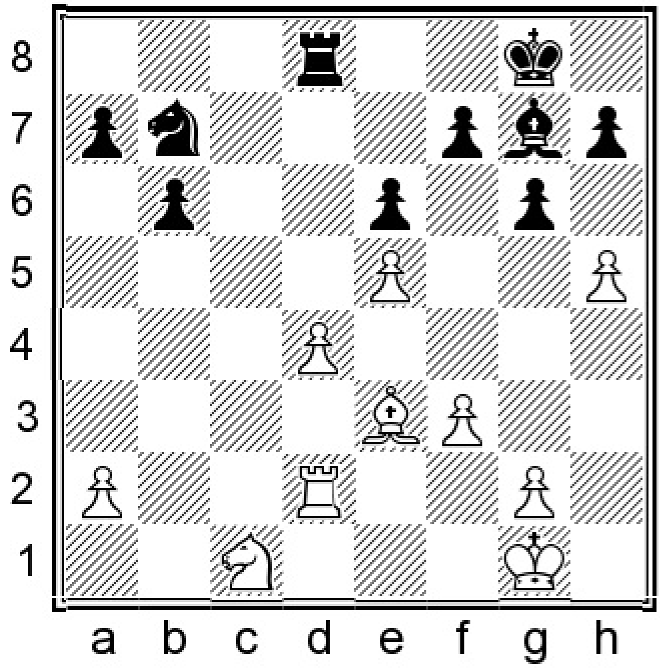
20...♕xd2 21.♖xd2 ♘a5

21...f5 22.exf6 ♗xf6 23.hxg6 hxg6 24.♔f2 (24.♗xg6 ♘xd4 25.♖xc8 ♘xe2+ 26.♖xe2 ♖xc8=) 24...g5 (24...♘a5 25.♖xc8 ♖xc8 26.♗xg6 ♘c4 27.♖c2 b5 28.♗d3±) 25.♖dc2±

22.♗xb7 ♖xc1+

22...♘xb7 23.♖dc2 ♖xc2 24.♖xc2 gxh5 25.♘g3±

23.♘xc1 ♘xb7



24.h6

24.♖c2! gxh5 25.♖c7 ♘a5 26.♘e2 b5 27.♔f2±

24...♖c8 25.♘e2 ♗f8 26.d5?!

26.♘g3 ♘a5 27.♗g5 ♘c6 28.♘e4 ♘e7 29.♘f6+ ♔h8 30.g4±

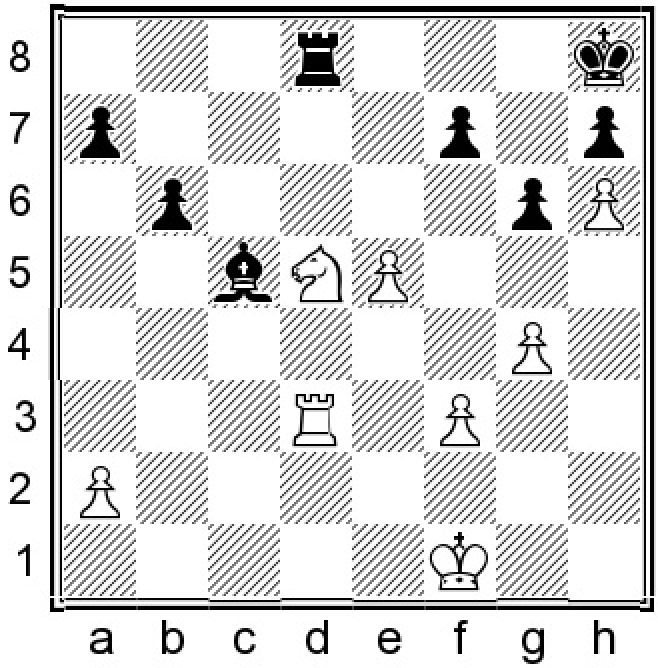
26...♖d8

26...exd5 27.♖xd5 ♖d8 28.♘c3 f5! 29.exf6 (29.♗g5 ♖xd5 30.♘xd5 ♘c5 31.♗d2 ♘e6 32.♘f6+ ♔h8 33.♔f2 g5=) 29...♖xd5 30.♘xd5 ♔f7 31.g4 ♔e6 32.♘c3 ♔xf6=

27.♘c3 ♗b4 28.♖d3 ♘c5

28...♗xc3 29.♖xc3 exd5 30.♖c7 ♖b8 31.f4 ♘c5 32.♖xa7±

29.♗xc5 ♗xc5+ 30.♔f1 exd5 31.♘xd5 ♔h8 32.g4



32...g5! 33.♔e2

33.f4 gxf4 34.♔e2 ♖e8 35.♔f3 ♖xe5 36.♔xf4 ♗d6! 37.♔f3 ♗f8 38.♘f6 ♗xh6 39.♖d8+ ♗f8! (39...♔g7? 40.♘h5++-) 40.♖xf8+ ♔g7 41.♘d7 ♖a5 42.♖c8 ♖xa2=

33...♖e8 34.♘e3 ♔g8= 35.♖d5 f6

35...♗xe3 36.♔xe3 f6 37.♖d7 ♖xe5+ 38.♔d4 ♖a5 39.♖g7+ ♔h8 40.♖d7 ♔g8=

36.♘c4 fxe5 37.♔d3 ♗f8 38.♖d7 ♗xh6 39.♖xa7 ♖d8+ 40.♔e2 b5 41.♘d2 ♗g7 1/2-1/2

166. D90
Rapport, Richard (2760) - Firouzja, Alireza (2754)
Stavanger 150/166, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♘f3 ♗g7 5.cxd5 ♘xd5 6.♗d2 O-O 7.♖c1 ♘xc3 8.♗xc3 ♘d7 9.e3 b6 10.♗e2 ♗b7 11.b4 ♘f6

11...e5 - 29/580

12.O-O ♘e4N

12...♕d5

13.♗a1 ♕d6

⌓13...c5 14.dxc5 ♕xd1 15.♖fxd1 ♗xa1 16.c6 ♗xc6 17.♖xc6 ♗f6 18.♖dc1 ♖fd8=

14.♘e5 ♖fc8

14...♕xb4 15.♖xc7 ♗d5 16.♗f3 ♖fd8 17.♘d3 ♕d6 18.♕c2 ♖d7 19.♖xd7 ♕xd7 20.♖c1±

15.♕a4

15.f3! ♘f6 16.♘c4! ♕d8 (16...♕xb4? 17.♖b1+-) 17.e4 c6 18.a4 e6 19.♕d2±

15...a6?!

15...c5 16.dxc5 (16.♗c4 e6 17.dxc5 bxc5 18.♖fd1 ♗d5 19.bxc5 ♖xc5∞) 16...bxc5 17.♘c4 (17.♖fd1 ♕e6 18.♗c4 ♕f5 19.f4 (19.♗xf7+? ♔f8-+) 19...♗xe5 20.♗xe5 ♘d6∞) 17...♕a6 (17...♕e6 18.♗xg7 ♔xg7 19.b5±) 18.♕d7 cxb4 19.♗xg7 ♔xg7 20.♕xe7 ♖ab8 21.f3 ♘c3 22.♖xc3 bxc3 23.♘d6 ♕xe2 24.♕xf7+ ♔h8 25.♕f6+ ♔g8 26.♕f7+ ♔h8=

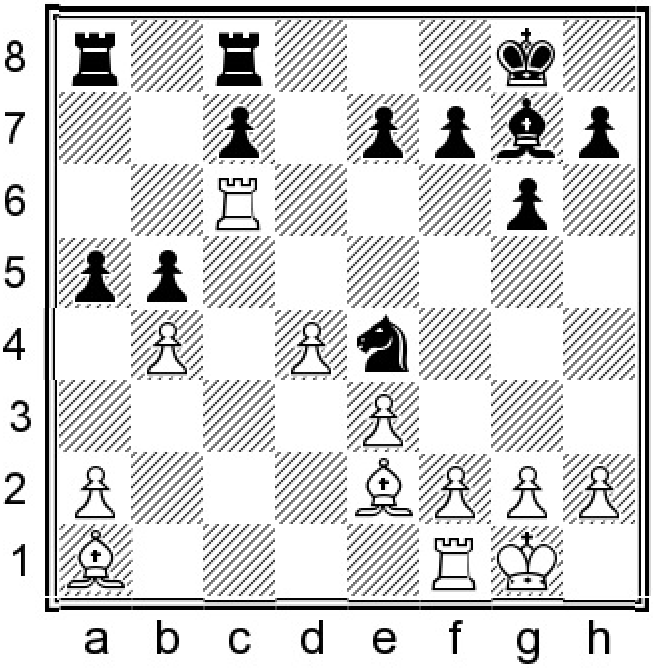
16.♘c6

16.♖fd1 ♘f6 17.a3 e6 18.♗f1±

16...b5

16...e6 17.a3 (17.♖fd1 ♘c5! 18.dxc5 ♕xc6 19.♕xc6 ♗xc6 20.♗xg7 ♔xg7 21.cxb6 cxb6=) 17...♘c5! 18.dxc5 (18.♖xc5 bxc5 19.♘a5 ♗d5 20.dxc5 ♕f8 21.♕c2 f5∞) 18...♕xc6 19.♕xc6 ♗xc6 20.♗xg7 ♔xg7 21.♖fd1 b5=

17.♕c2 ♗xc6 18.♕xc6 ♕xc6 19.♖xc6± a5



20.♗d3!

20.♗xb5 axb4 21.♖c2 c5 22.♗d3 ♘c3 23.♗xc3 bxc3 24.♖xc3 cxd4 25.♖xc8+ ♖xc8 26.exd4 ♗xd4=

20...♘f6

20...♘d6 21.♗c3 axb4 22.♗xb4 ♖xa2 23.♖fc1 ♖d8 (23...♖b2 24.♗xd6 exd6 25.g3±) 24.♖xc7±

21.♗xb5 axb4 22.♗c4

22.♗a6 ♖d8 23.♗c4 ♘d5 24.♗b3±

22...♘e4 23.♖c1 ♘d2 24.♗a6 ♖cb8 25.♖1c2 ♖b6

25...♘e4 26.♗b2 ♘d6 27.♗c1±

26.♖xb6 cxb6 27.♗b7 ♖a7 28.♗c6 ♘b1 29.♗d5 ♘c3 30.♗b3 ♖c7 31.f4 e6 32.g4 ♗f6 33.g5 ♗e7 34.♔g2 ♔g7 35.♔f3 h6 36.h4± ♖c8 37.♗b2 b5 38.♖c1

38.d5 exd5 39.♗xd5 hxg5 40.hxg5 f6 41.♗e6 ♖c7 42.gxf6+ ♗xf6 43.♗b3±

38...♗d8 39.a3 ♗a5 40.axb4 ♗xb4 41.e4 ♗a5 42.d5 exd5 43.exd5 hxg5

⌓43...b4 44.d6 hxg5 45.hxg5± - 43...hg5

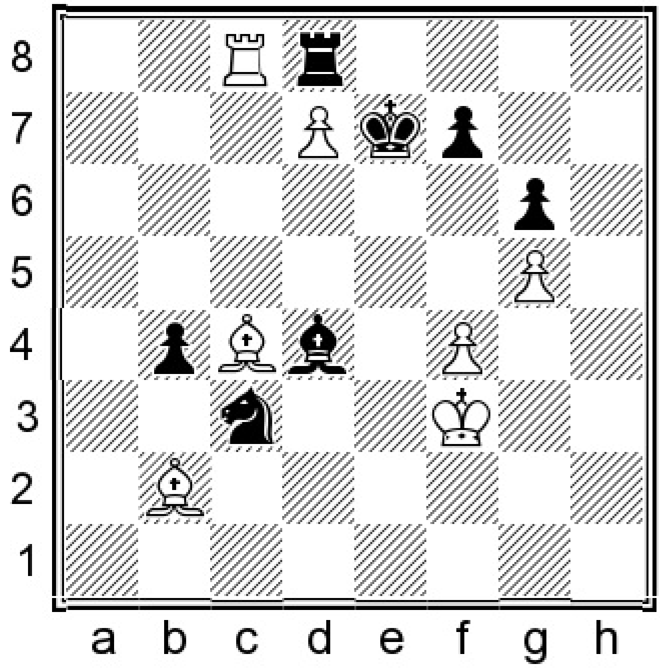
44.hxg5

44.♖a1! g4+ 45.♔xg4 ♗d8 46.d6 ♗f6 47.♖a7 ♖f8 48.♗a3+-

44...b4 45.d6 ♖d8 46.♖d1 ♗b6 47.d7 ♔f8 48.♖d6 ♗a7 49.♗c4 ♗c5 50.♖c6 ♗d4

50...♗e7 51.♖c8 ♔g7 52.♖c7±

51.♖c8 ♔e7?



51...♗b6 52.♗f1 ♔e7 53.♗h3±

52.♗xf7!+- ♔xd7 53.♖c4 ♔e7 54.♗xg6 ♖d6 55.♖xb4 1-0

E00-E24

167. * E05
Fedoseev, Vladimir (2696) - Raja, Harshit (2484)
Beograd 150/167, 2021

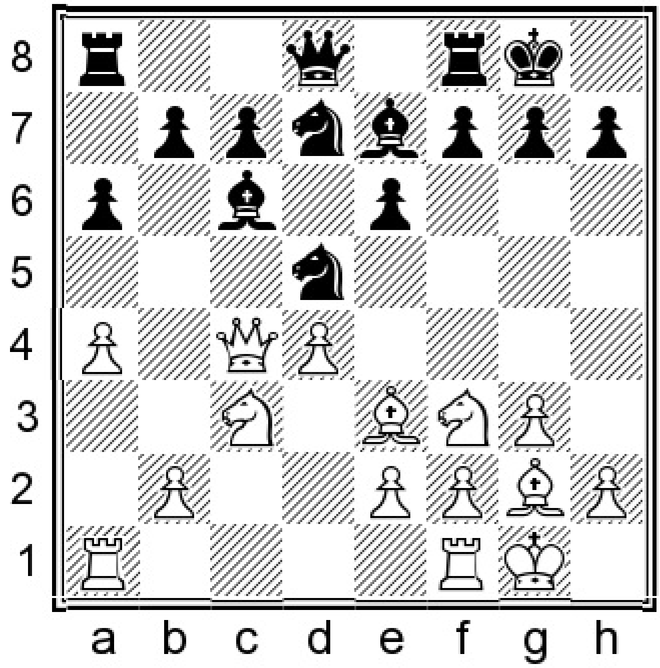
1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.♗g2 ♗e7 5.d4 O-O 6.O-O dxc4 7.♕c2 a6 8.a4 ♗d7 9.♕xc4 ♗c6 10.♗e3

10.♗f4 - 149/171

10...♘bd7

10...♗d5 11.♕d3 (11.♕c2 a5 12.♘c3 ♘a6N (12...c6) 13.♘xd5 exd5 14.♕b3 ♘b4 15.♘e5 c6 16.♗d2 ♖e8 (16...♕c7 17.♖fe1 ♗d6=) 17.e4 ♗d6 18.exd5 ♘fxd5 19.♖fe1 ♕c7= Deac,B (2651)-Navara,D (2699) Riga (blitz) 150/(167) 2021) 11...♗e4 12.♕b3 ♗d5 13.♕d1 ♘c6!? 14.♘c3 a5 15.♘xd5 exd5 (15...♘xd5 16.♗d2±) 16.♘e5 ♘b4 17.♗d2 ♗d6 18.e3 ♖e8 19.♗c3 c6 20.f3 c5!? 21.g4!? h6 22.f4 ♘e4 23.dxc5 (23.g5 cxd4 24.exd4 hxg5 25.♕h5 ♗xe5 26.fxe5 ♕d7 27.♖f3 ♖a6 28.♖af1 ♖e7 29.♖f5 ♖h6 30.♕e2 ♖h4∞) 23...♗xc5 24.g5!? ♘xc3 25.bxc3 ♘c6! (25...♗xe3+ 26.♔h1 ♘c6 27.♗xd5↑) 26.♕xd5 ♗xe3+ (26...♕xd5 27.♗xd5 ♘xe5 28.fxe5 ♖xe5 29.♗xf7+ ♔h8 30.g6 ♖xe3 31.c4±) 27.♔h1 ♘xe5 28.fxe5 ♕xg5! 29.♕xf7+ ♔h8 30.♖f5 ♖e7! 31.♖xg5 ♖xf7 32.e6 ♖e7=

11.♘c3 ♘d5



11...♘b6 12.♕b3 a5 13.♘e5 ♗xg2 14.♔xg2 ♗b4 15.f3±

12.♗d2

12.a5!? ♘xe3 13.fxe3 ♘f6 14.♘e5 ♗xg2 15.♔xg2 ♗d6 16.♘f3 ♘g4 17.♕d3 ♕e7 18.e4 c5 19.e3 cxd4 20.exd4 f6 21.♘a4 ♖ac8 22.h3 ♘h6 23.♘b6 ♖cd8 24.♕b3 ♘f7∞

12...a5

12...♘7b6

13.♕d3N

13.♕b3; 13.♖fe1

13...f5

13...♘b4 14.♕b1 f5!?

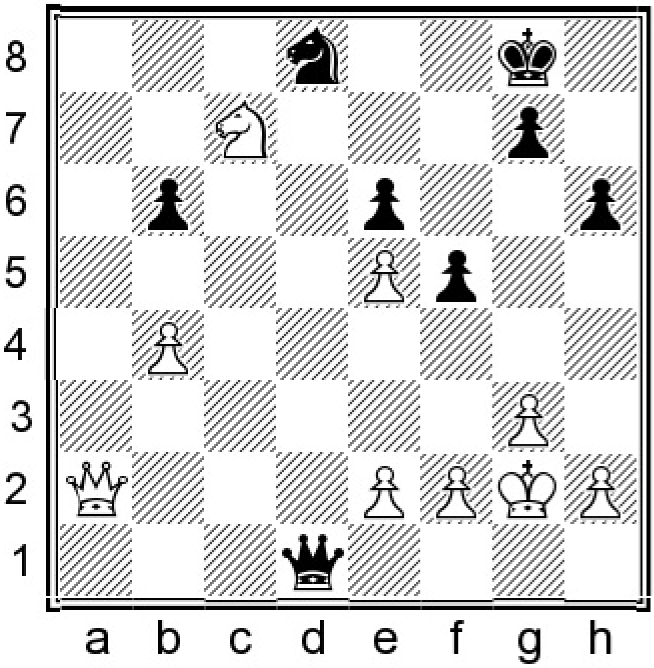
14.♕c4 ♗f6 15.♕b3 ♘7b6 16.♘e5 ♗xe5 17.dxe5 ♕e8 18.♘b5 ♘xa4

18...♗xb5 19.axb5 a4 20.♕d3 ♖d8 21.♗g5! ♖d7 22.♗e3 ♘f4 23.♕c2 ♘xg2 24.♔xg2 ♘d5 25.♗c5±

19.♘d4 ♘c5 20.♕c4 b6 21.♗xa5 ♗b7 22.♗b4 ♘xb4 23.♗xb7 ♖xa1 24.♖xa1 ♘xb7 25.♕xb4 ♘a5 26.♖c1 ♖f7 27.♘b5 ♕d8 28.♕a4 h6 29.b4 ♘b7 30.♕a2 ♖e7 31.♖c6 ♕d1+ 32.♔g2 ♘d8 33.♖xc7?!

33.♖c2! ♕e1 34.♘c3! ♔f7 35.♕a4±

33...♖xc7 34.♘xc7



34...♕c1! 35.♘a8 ♕c6+ 36.f3 ♕b5 37.♕d2 ♘f7 38.♕e3 ♕xe5?!

38...g5=

39.♔f2± ♕a1?

39...b5 40.♕c5±

40.♘xb6 ♕h1 41.♕xe6 ♕xh2+ 42.♔e3+- ♕g1+ 43.♔d3 1-0

168. E11
Deac, Bogdan Daniel (2639) - Ferreira, Jorge Viterbo (2520)
Reykjavik 150/168, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 ♗b4+ 4.♗d2 ♕e7 5.g3 ♘c6 6.e3 ♗xd2+ 7.♕xd2 O-O

7...d5 8.♕c3 (8.♗g2 dxc4 9.O-O e5 10.♘xe5 ♘xe5 11.dxe5 ♕xe5 12.♘a3 O-O (12...♗e6 13.♕b4 a5 14.♕xb7 O-O 15.♕c6±) 13.♘xc4 ♕e7 14.♖ac1 ♖d8 15.♕a5 c6 16.b4 ♗e6 17.♕c5 ♕e8!? (17...♕xc5 18.bxc5 ♘d7 19.♘a5 ♖ab8 20.f4±) 18.♖fd1 (18.♘d6 ♕d7 19.♖fd1 ♘e8=) 18...♖xd1+ 19.♖xd1 ♖d8 20.♘d6 b6! 21.♕xc6 ♕xc6 22.♗xc6 ♔f8 23.e4 ♘g4 24.♗a4 ♗xa2=) 8...dxc4 (8...♘e4 9.♕c2!? Δ♘b4 10.♕c1 dxc4 11.♕xc4±; 8...O-O - 146/(166)) 9.♘a3 (9.♘bd2 O-O 10.♘xc4 ♘e4 11.♕c2 ♕b4+ 12.♘fd2 ♘xd2 13.♕xd2 ♖d8 14.f4!? Δb6 15.♖c1 ♕xd2+ 16.♘xd2±) 9...b6 10.♘xc4 ♗b7 11.♗g2 O-O 12.O-O ♘b8 13.♖fd1 ♘a6 14.♖ac1 c5 15.dxc5 ♘xc5 16.♕a3±

8.♗g2 d6 9.♘c3 e5 10.O-O

10.♘d5 ♕d8 (10...♘xd5 11.cxd5 ♘b8 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.O-O±) 11.O-O ♖e8 (11...♗g4 12.b4±) 12.♕c3!? ♗g4 (12...♘e4 13.♕c2 exd4 14.exd4 ♗g4 15.♖ad1±) 13.dxe5 dxe5 14.♘d2 a5 15.h3 ♗e6 16.♕b3±

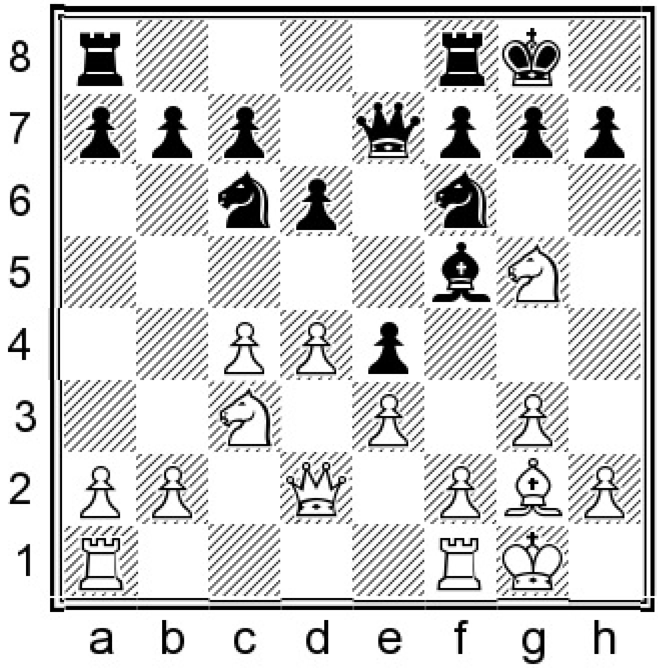
10...e4

10...exd4 11.♘xd4 ♘xd4 12.♕xd4±; 10...♗g4 11.♖ac1 (11.h3 ♗xf3 12.♗xf3 exd4 13.exd4 ♕e6 14.♘d5 ♘xd5 15.cxd5 ♕f6 16.dxc6 ♕xf3 17.cxb7 ♕xb7 18.d5 ♖fe8 19.♖fe1 ♕b5 20.♕d4 a5 21.♔g2 h5⇄) 11...♖ae8 12.d5 ♘b8 13.e4 a5 14.♘e1 ♘a6 15.♘d3±

11.♘g5

11.♘e1 ♗f5 12.♘c2 a5 13.a3 ♖fe8 (13...a4?! 14.♘b4 ♕d7 15.♕c2 ♘xb4 16.axb4 ♕c6 17.c5±) 14.f3 exf3 15.♖xf3 ♘e4 16.♕e1 ♗g6 17.♘d5 ♕d7 18.♖f4 ♘g5∞

11...♗f5



12.h4!?N

12.f3 exf3 13.♖xf3 ♗g6 14.♖af1 h6 (14...♘d7 15.♘h3 ♘b6 16.b3 ♖ae8 17.♘f4± Δ♗e4? 18.♘xe4 ♕xe4 19.♘d5! ♘xd5 20.cxd5 ♕xd5 21.♖f5!+-; 14...♘g4 15.♘h3 ♖ae8 16.e4 ♘d8 17.♘f4 c6 18.♘xg6 fxg6 19.b4±) 15.♖xf6 hxg5 (15...gxf6? 16.♘ge4 f5 17.♘d5+-) 16.♖6f2 ♖ae8 17.e4 (17.♖e1 ♘d8 18.e4 c6 19.♖fe2 f6 Δ Nf7∞) 17...♘b8! (17...♘d8? 18.♘d5+-) 18.♗h3 c6 19.♗g4 ♘d7 20.♖e2 a6 21.a4 ♘f6! 22.♕xg5 (22.♗f5 ♗xf5 23.♖xf5 ♘h7 24.a5 ♕d7 25.b4 g4⇄) 22...♘xe4 23.♕xe7 ♖xe7 24.♖fe1 ♖fe8 25.♗f3 f5 26.g4 (26.♔g2 a5 27.g4 ♔f8 28.♗xe4 fxe4 29.♖e3 ♗f7 30.b3 d5=) 26...♘d2! 27.♖xe7 ♘xf3+ 28.♔f2 ♘xe1 29.♖xe8+ ♗xe8 30.♔xe1 ♗g6! 31.gxf5 ♗xf5=

12...♖ae8 13.♖ac1 h6 14.♘h3 ♘b8 15.♘d5 ♘xd5 16.cxd5 c6

16...♖c8!? 17.♕b4 (17.♕e2 ♘d7 18.g4 ♗g6 19.g5 hxg5 20.♘xg5 ♘b6 21.♗h3 ♘xd5!? 22.♗xc8 ♖xc8 23.♕g4 f5 24.♕h3 ♖f8=∞) 17...b6 18.h5 g5!? (18...♘d7 19.♘f4 g5 20.hxg6 fxg6 21.♘e6! ♗xe6 22.dxe6 ♕xe6 23.d5 ♕xd5 24.♗xe4↑) 19.hxg6 fxg6 20.♘f4 ♖fe8 21.♕a4 ♘d7 (21...g5!? 22.♘e6 c6! 23.f4 exf3 24.♖xf3 ♗e4 25.♖cf1 ♗xf3 26.♗xf3 ♔h8 27.e4 cxd5 28.exd5 ♘d7 29.♗h5 ♖f8! 30.♘xf8 ♖xf8 31.♖xf8+ ♘xf8∞) 22.♕xa7 ♘f6 23.♕b7 ♕f7 24.♘e6 c5 25.♕xf7+ ♔xf7 26.dxc5 ♘xd5 27.♘d4 dxc5 28.♘xf5 gxf5 29.♖fd1 ♖ed8 30.a3 ♘e7∞ Δ Ng6

17.dxc6 bxc6 18.b4 d5

⌓18...♖c8 19.d5 (19.♘f4 g5 20.hxg5 hxg5 21.♘e2 ♘d7 22.f3 ♘f6 23.g4 exf3 24.♘g3 ♗g6∞) 19...c5 20.bxc5 dxc5 21.♘f4 ♘d7 22.d6 ♕f6 23.♕c2 (23.♖fd1 ♗g4∞) 23...♕xd6 24.♗xe4 ♗xe4 25.♕xe4 ♘f6 26.♕f5 ♖fd8=

19.b5± ♕d7

19...cxb5 20.♘f4 ♕d7 21.♖c5 ♗e6 22.♖fc1 a6 23.h5±

20.bxc6

20.♘f4 cxb5 21.♖c5 ♗e6 22.♖fc1±

20...♘xc6 21.♔h2!?

21.♘f4 g5! 22.hxg5 hxg5 23.♘h5 f6 (23...♖e6?! 24.f3!±; 23...♕d6!? 24.♕e2 ♖e6 25.f3 exf3 26.♕xf3 ♘e7 27.♖c5 ♔h8 28.g4 ♗g6 29.♕h3 ♔g8∞) 24.f3 ♗g6 25.g4 f5∞

21...♘d8

21...♕d6 22.♖c5 g5!? 23.hxg5 hxg5 24.♘xg5 ♔g7 25.♔g1 ♖h8⩱

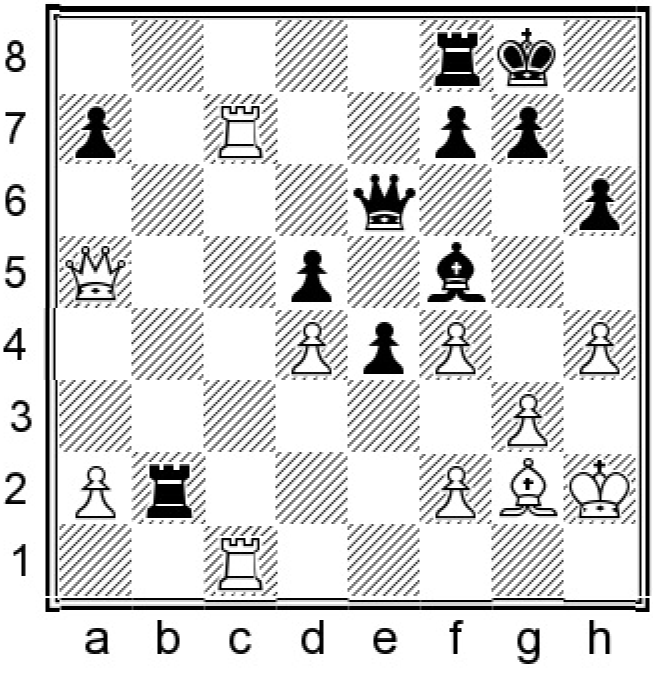
22.♕a5 ♘e6 23.♘f4 ♘xf4 24.♖c7 ♕e6 25.exf4 ♖b8

25...♕b6!? 26.♖c5 (26.♕xa7 ♕b2⩱) 26...♗e6 27.f5 ♗xf5 28.♖xd5 ♗g4 29.♕xb6 axb6 30.♖b1 e3 31.fxe3 ♖xe3=

26.♖fc1!?

26.♕xa7 ♖b6 27.a4 ♖a6 28.♕c5 ♖xa4 29.♖c6 ♕d7 30.♖d6 ♖a5!=

26...♖b2?



26...♖b6 27.♕xa7 ♖a6 28.♕c5 ♖xa2 29.♖c6 ♕d7 30.♖d6 ♕b7 31.♕xd5 ♕xd5 32.♖xd5 ♗e6 33.♖e5 ♖xf2 34.♔g1 e3 35.♖xe3 ♖d2=; 26...♗g4!? 27.♖1c6 ♕f5 28.♕c3 (28.♖d6?! e3!∓) 28...♖fc8 29.♖xa7 g5!?⇄

27.♖1c6! ♕e8 28.♕xd5 ♗e6

28...♗g4 29.♖c2 ♖xc2 30.♖xc2 e3 31.fxe3 ♕xe3 32.♖c7±

29.♕xe4 ♖xf2 30.♖c2 ♖xc2 31.♕xc2 ♕d8

31...♕b8 32.d5 ♗g4 33.d6+-

32.♕c5 ♕b8 33.♖b7+- ♕d8 34.♖xa7 ♕f6 35.a4 ♕g6 36.♖a8 ♖xa8 37.♗xa8 ♕g4 38.♗g2 ♕e2 39.a5 ♗c4 40.d5 ♕a2 41.d6 ♗f1 42.♕d5 1-0

169. E17
Howell, David (2658) - Korobov, Anton (2690)
Riga 150/169, 2021

1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 b6 4.♗g2 ♗b7 5.d4 ♗e7 6.O-O O-O 7.♖e1 ♘a6 8.♘c3 ♘e4 9.♗d2 f5 10.♘e5 d6

10...♗f6 - 135/173

11.♘d3 ♗f6N

11...♗g5 12.♘xe4! (12.♗xg5 ♕xg5 13.e3± (13.♘f4±)) 12...fxe4 13.b4 c5 14.dxc5 bxc5 15.b5±

12.♘xe4 fxe4

12...♗xe4 13.♗c3 ♗xg2 14.♔xg2 ♕d7 15.♘f4 ♗g5 16.e3±

13.e3

13.♗c3 ♕e8 14.♘f4 ♕f7 15.e3 ♖ae8 16.♕e2 ♘b8 17.h4 ♘d7 18.♖ad1±

13...e5

13...♕c8!? 14.♘f4 e5 15.♗h3 (15.dxe5 ♗xe5 16.♖b1 ♕f5∞) 15...♕e8 16.♘e6 ♗c8! 17.d5 ♘c5 18.♘xc7 ♕f7 19.♗e6 ♘xe6 20.♘xe6 ♗xe6 21.dxe6 ♕xe6 22.♗b4 ♗e7=

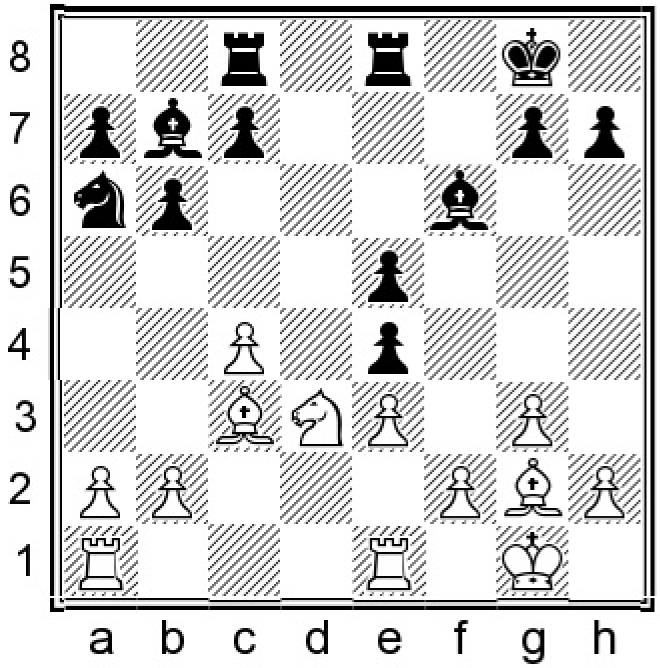
14.♕g4

14.dxe5 dxe5 15.♘b4 ♘xb4 16.♗xb4 c5 17.♗c3 ♕xd1 18.♖exd1 ♖fd8 19.a3±

14...♕c8 15.♕xc8 ♖axc8 16.dxe5 dxe5 17.♗c3

17.♘b4 ♘xb4 (17...♖cd8 18.♘d5! c6 (18...♗xd5 19.cxd5 ♖xd5 20.♗c3 ♘c5 21.b4 ♘a4 22.♖ec1±) 19.♘xf6+ gxf6 20.♖ed1 c5 21.a3 ♔f7 22.♗c3±) 18.♗xb4 c5 19.♗c3±; 17.♘c1!? ♖fd8 18.♘b3 ♗e7 19.♖ed1 ♔f7 20.♗c3 ♖xd1+ 21.♖xd1 ♔f6 22.h4±

17...♖fe8?!



17...♖fd8 18.♘b4 ♘xb4 19.♗xb4 c5 20.♗c3 a5 21.♗f1 ♗c6∞

18.b4! ♖cd8

18...c5 19.b5 ♘b4 20.♗xb4 (20.♘xb4 cxb4 21.♗xb4 ♖xc4 22.a3 ♔f7 23.♖ed1±) 20...cxb4 21.♘xb4 ♖xc4 22.a3 ♖c5 23.♗f1 ♖d8 24.♖ec1 ♖dc8 25.♖d1 ♔f8 26.a4±

19.♖ad1

19.♘b2! c5 20.a3 ♔f7 21.h4 h5 22.b5 ♘c7 23.a4±

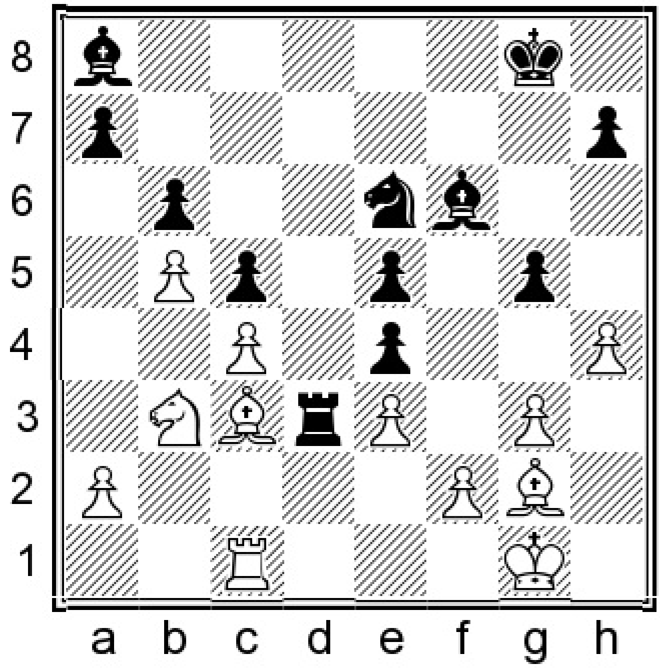
19...♗a8 20.♘c1

20.♘b2 ♔f7 21.a3 c5 22.b5 ♘c7 23.♖xd8 ♖xd8 24.a4 a5 25.bxa6 ♘xa6 26.a5±

20...c5 21.b5± ♘c7

21...♘b4 22.♘b3! ♘xa2 23.♖xd8 ♖xd8 24.♗d2 ♘b4 (24...♖d3?! 25.♖a1+-) 25.♖a1 ♖d7 26.♗h3 ♖c7 27.♗c3 ♔f7 28.♗g2 ♔e6 29.♘d2 ♔f5 30.h3 h5 31.♘xe4 ♗xe4 32.g4+ hxg4 33.hxg4+ ♔xg4 34.♗xe4±

22.h4 ♘e6 23.♖xd8 ♖xd8 24.♘b3 ♖d3 25.♖c1 g5



25...♔f7 26.♔f1 (26.♘d2?! ♘d4! 27.exd4 (27.♔f1 ♘f3∞) 27...exd4 28.♘xe4 ♗xe4 29.♗xe4 ♖xc3 30.♖xc3 dxc3=) 26...g5 27.♘d2 gxh4 28.gxh4 ♗xh4 29.♘xe4±

26.♘d2! ♘d4 27.♗f1 ♖xd2 28.♗xd2 ♘f3+ 29.♔g2 ♘xd2 30.♖d1+- ♘xf1 31.♖d7

31.♔xf1 gxh4 32.♖d7+-

31...♘d2 32.♖xd2 ♗b7 33.♖d6 1-0

E25-E49

170. E25
Vitiugov, Nikita (2727) - Oparin, Grigoriy (2654)
Riga 150/170, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.a3 ♗xc3+ 5.bxc3 c5 6.f3 ♘c6 7.e4 d6 8.♗e3 b6 9.♗d3 e5

9...♕c7 10.♘e2 (10.f4 e5 11.♘f3 ♘g4 12.♗g1 exf4 13.h3 ♘e3 14.♗xe3 fxe3 15.O-O f6 16.♖e1 ♗d7 17.♖xe3=) 10...♘a5 11.O-O ♗a6 12.♗g5 ♘d7 13.f4 ♗xc4 14.f5 e5 15.f6 g6 16.dxe5 ♗xd3 17.♕xd3 dxe5 18.c4 O-O-O 19.♘c3=

10.d5

10.♘e2 h6 (10...♕d7 11.d5 ♘a5 12.♘g3 ♗a6 13.♕e2 h5 (13...O-O-O 14.a4 ♖dg8 15.h4 g6 16.♔d1 ♘h5 17.♘f1 f5 18.♔c2 fxe4 19.fxe4 ♖f8∓) 14.h4 g6 15.a4 ♘g8 16.♘f1 O-O-O 17.♘d2±; 10...O-O 11.d5 ♘e7 12.h4 ♔h8 13.g4 ♗xg4 14.fxg4 ♘xg4 15.♗d2 f5 16.exf5 e4 17.♘g3+-; 10...♘a5 11.♘g3 ♗a6 12.♘f5 g6 13.♘h6 ♘d7 14.O-O ♕e7 15.f4 ♖f8 16.fxe5 dxe5 17.♘g4 ♘xc4 18.♗c1 h5 19.♘xe5 ♘dxe5 20.dxe5+-) 11.O-O g5 12.♘g3 ♘a5 13.♕e2 ♕e7 14.♖fe1 ♗e6 15.♖ab1 ♖g8 16.♖b5 ♕c7 17.♖eb1 ♖g6 18.♘f5 ♘h5 19.♖xa5 bxa5 20.♖b7+-

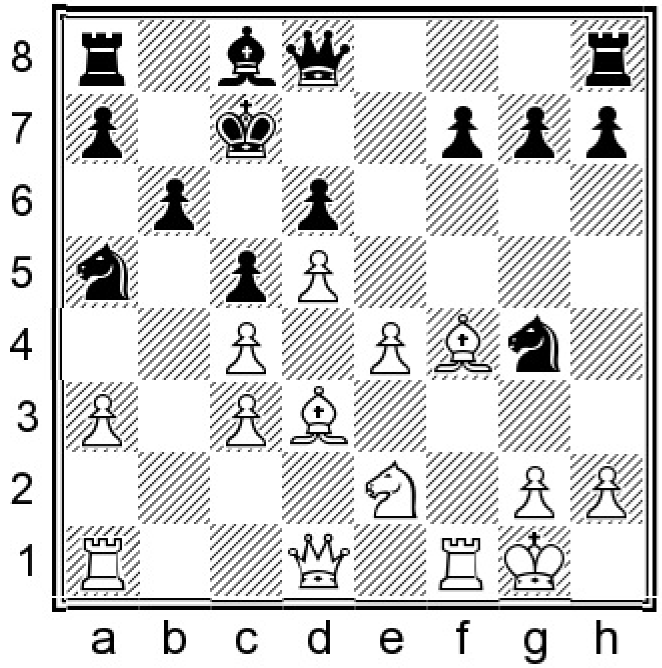
10...♘a5 11.♘e2 ♔d7!?N

11...♗a6

12.O-O ♔c7 13.f4 ♘g4

13...♘d7 14.♘g3 g6 15.♕e2±

14.♗d2 exf4 15.♗xf4



15...f6

15...g5!? 16.h3 gxf4 17.hxg4 ♕g5 18.♖xf4 f6 19.♕f1 h5 20.♖xf6 ♕e3+ 21.♕f2 ♕xd3 22.♖f7+ ♗d7 23.♖xd7+ ♔xd7 24.♕f7+ ♔c8 25.♕e6+=

16.♘d4! ♘e5

16...cxd4?? 17.cxd4+-

17.♘b5+ ♔b7 18.♗xe5

18.♖b1 a6 19.♘d4 ♔a7=

18...dxe5 19.d6

19.a4 a6 20.♘a3 ♔a7=

19...♖b8

19...♗e6 20.♘c7 ♕xd6 21.♘xa8 ♖xa8 22.♕c2=

20.♗e2 ♗e6 21.♘c7 ♗f7

21...♕d7 22.♘xe6 ♕xe6 23.♗g4 ♕xc4 24.♕f3 ♖bd8 25.♖fd1=

22.♖b1?!

22.a4 ♕f8 23.♖a2 ♖d8 24.♖d2 ♘xc4 25.♗xc4 ♗xc4 26.a5 ♗xf1 27.♔xf1=

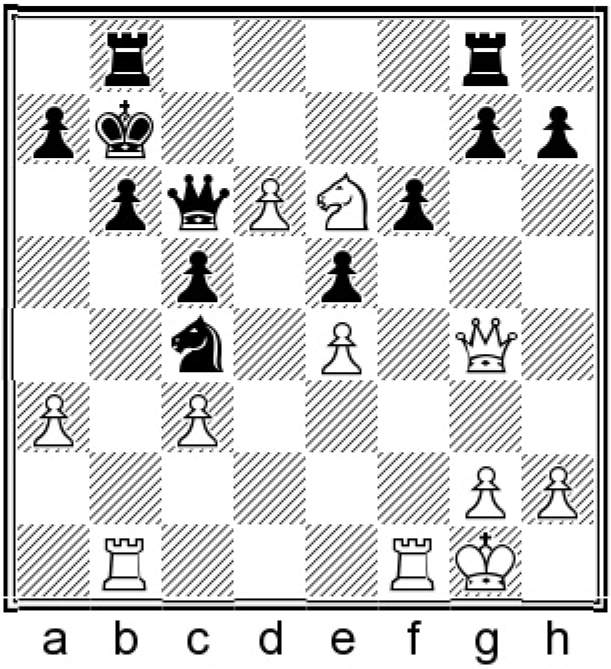
22...♕d7?!

22...♘xc4! 23.♗xc4 ♗xc4 24.a4 (24.♖f2 ♕d7∓) 24...♔c6 25.♘b5 a6 26.♘a3 ♗xf1 27.♕d5+ ♔d7 28.♖xf1 ♕g8∓

23.♗g4 ♕c6 24.♗e6 ♗xe6 25.♘xe6 ♘xc4

25...♖hg8? 26.♕d3 ♖be8 27.♕d5 ♕xd5 28.cxd5±

26.♕g4 ♖hg8



27.d7?

27.♖fd1! ♘xd6 (27...♘e3 28.♕h5 ♘xd1 29.♕f7+ ♔a6 30.♖xd1 ♕a4 31.♘c7+ ♔a5 32.♕d5 ♖gc8 33.♖b1 a6 34.♖b4 ♕c2 35.♕c6 ♕d1+=) 28.♖d5 ♔a8 29.♖bd1 ♘f7 30.♘xg7 f5 31.exf5 h5 32.♕g3=

27...♘e3 28.♕h3 ♘xf1 29.♖xf1

29.♖d1!? ♖bd8 30.♔xf1 ♕xe4 31.♖d6 g5∓

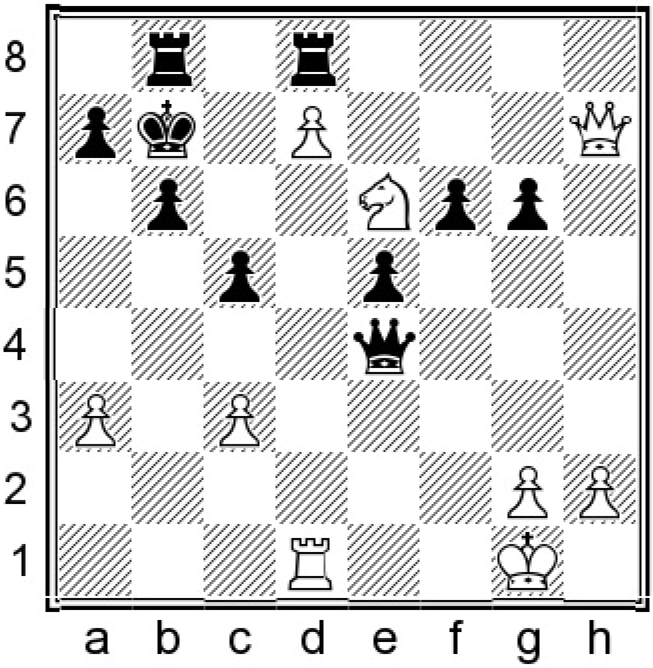
29...♕xe4 30.♕h5

30.♖d1 ♖bd8 31.♘xd8+ ♖xd8 32.♕e6 ♕c6 33.♖d6 ♕b5 34.♖d5 ♕e2-+

30...♖gd8 31.♖d1 g6

31...♕a4! 32.♘xd8+ ♖xd8 33.♖d5 ♖xd7 34.♕e8 ♔c7-+

32.♕xh7



32...♕e2! 33.♖b1

33.♖f1 ♕d3-+

33...♕c2 34.♖f1 ♕d3 35.♘xd8+ ♖xd8 36.♕e7 ♖xd7 37.♕xf6 ♕xc3 38.♕xg6

38.h3 ♕d4+ 39.♔h2 ♕d6-+

38...♕e3+ 39.♔h1 c4! 40.♕e6

40.h4 ♕d3 41.♕f6 c3-+

40...♕d3 41.♔g1

41.♖g1 c3 42.h3 c2 43.♕xe5 ♕c4 44.♕e1 ♔a6 45.♕c1 ♕e2-+

41...c3 42.♕xe5 c2 43.♖c1

43.h3 ♕xf1+-+

43...♕d1+ 44.♔f2 ♕d2+!

44...♕xc1 45.♕e4+ ♔c7 46.♕e5+ ♖d6-+

45.♔g3 ♖d3+ 46.♔h4 ♕xg2 0-1

171. E25
Cheparinov, Ivan (2659) - Kryvoruchko, Yuriy (2689)
Hrvatska 150/171, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 ♗xc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.cxd5 ♘xd5 8.dxc5 ♕a5 9.e4 ♘f6 10.♗e3 O-O 11.a4

11.♕b3 - 147/174, 175

11...♘fd7 12.♔f2 ♖d8N

⌓12...♘xc5

13.♕b3 ♕c7

13...♘xc5? 14.♕b5 ♕xb5 15.axb5±

14.♖d1⩲ ♖f8

14...b6!?

15.♕a3 b6 16.c6?!

16.cxb6 axb6 17.♗b5 ♗a6 18.c4⩲

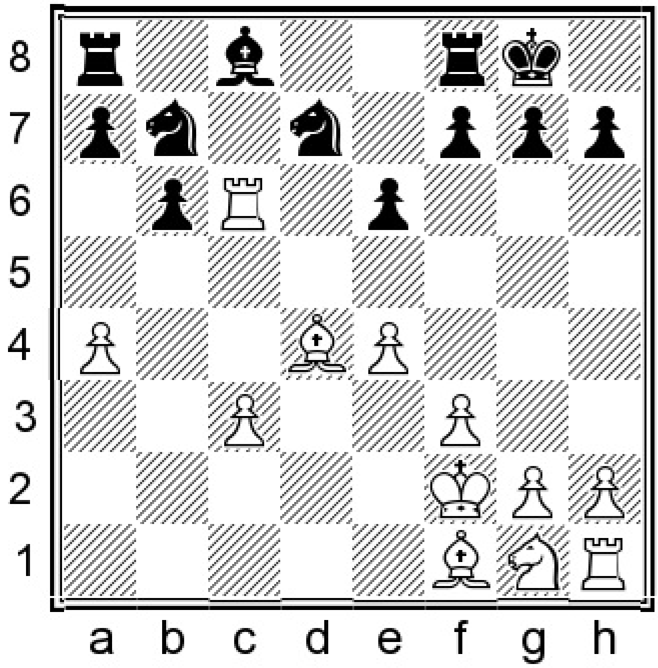
16...♘xc6 17.♕d6

17.♗b5=

17...♕xd6 18.♖xd6 ♘a5 19.♗d4?!

19.♗b5 ♘e5 20.♘e2 a6 21.♗d3 ♘b7 22.♖d4 ♘c6 23.♖b1 ♘xd4 24.cxd4 b5 25.axb5 axb5 26.♖xb5⩱

19...♘b7 20.♖c6



20...♘dc5?

20...e5 21.♗e3 ♖d8⩱

21.♖c7 ♗d7 22.a5= ♖fc8 23.♖xc8+ ♖xc8 24.axb6 axb6 25.♘h3 b5 26.♗e2 ♘a4 27.♖b1 ♘xc3 28.♗xc3 ♖xc3 29.♗xb5 1/2-1/2

172. E32
Xiong, Jeffery (2700) - So, Wesley (2778)
USA (ch) 150/172, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♕c2 O-O 5.e4 d5 6.e5 ♘e4 7.♗d3 c5 8.♘f3 cxd4 9.♘xd4 ♘d7 10.♗f4 ♕h4 11.g3 ♕h5 12.O-O g5 13.cxd5 ♗xc3 14.bxc3 exd5 15.♗e3 ♘xe5 16.f3 ♘c5 17.♗f5 ♘e6 18.♖ae1 ♘xd4 19.♗xd4 ♘c6 20.f4

20.♗c5 - 146/(178)

20...gxf4 21.♖xf4 ♗xf5 22.♖xf5 ♘xd4N 23.cxd4 ♕h6

23...♕g4 24.♖f4 ♕d7 25.♖f5 (25.♖e5 f6 26.♖ef5 ♖ae8 27.♕c5=) 25...♖ae8 26.♖ef1⯹

24.♕c7

24.♕e2!?

24...♖ac8

24...♕c6 25.♖e7 ♕xc7 26.♖xc7 ♖ac8 27.♖xb7 (27.♖fxf7 ♖xc7 28.♖xc7 ♖f3 29.♖xb7 ♖a3 30.♖d7 ♖xa2 31.♖xd5 a5=) 27...♖c1+ 28.♔g2 ♖c2+ 29.♔f3 (29.♖f2 ♖xf2+ 30.♔xf2 ♖c8 31.♔e3 ♖c2 32.♖xa7 ♖xh2 33.a4 ♖a2=) 29...♖xa2=

25.♕e5

25.♕e7 ♖c2 26.h4 f6 27.♖ef1 ♖c1 28.♕e6+ ♔h8 29.♕xd5 ♕e3+ 30.♔g2 ♖g8=

25...f6

25...♖c6 26.♖ef1 ♖e6 27.♖g5+ (27.♕xd5 ♖e2 28.♖1f2 ♖xf2 29.♖xf2 ♕e3=) 27...♖g6 28.♖h5 ♕d2 29.♖f2 ♕c1+ 30.♔g2 ♕c6=

26.♕xd5+ ♔h8 27.♖f2

27.♕e4!?

27...♖c1 28.♕e6 ♖d8

28...♖xe1+ 29.♕xe1 ♕h5=

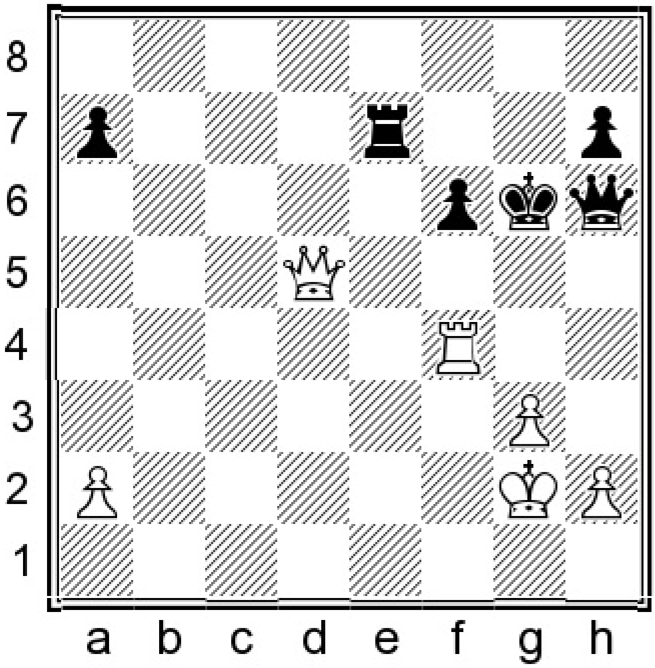
29.d5

29.♖e2

29...♖xd5 30.♔g2 ♖xe1 31.♕c8+ ♔g7 32.♕xb7+ ♔g6 33.♕xd5 ♖e7

33...♕f8=

34.♖f4



34...♕g5□

34...♕f8? 35.♖g4+ ♔h6 36.♕c4+-; 34...♖e5? 35.♖g4+ ♖g5 36.♕d3+ ♔g7 37.♕d7+ ♔g6 38.♕e8+ ♔g7 39.♖c4+-; 34...♖e2+ 35.♔f3 ♖e5 36.♕d3+! ♔g7 37.♕d7+ ♔g8 38.♕d8+ ♔f7 39.♕c7+ ♔e6 (39...♖e7 40.♕c4+ ♔f8 41.♕c6!±) 40.♕c4+ ♔e7 41.♔g2±

35.♕g8+ ♖g7 36.♕e8+

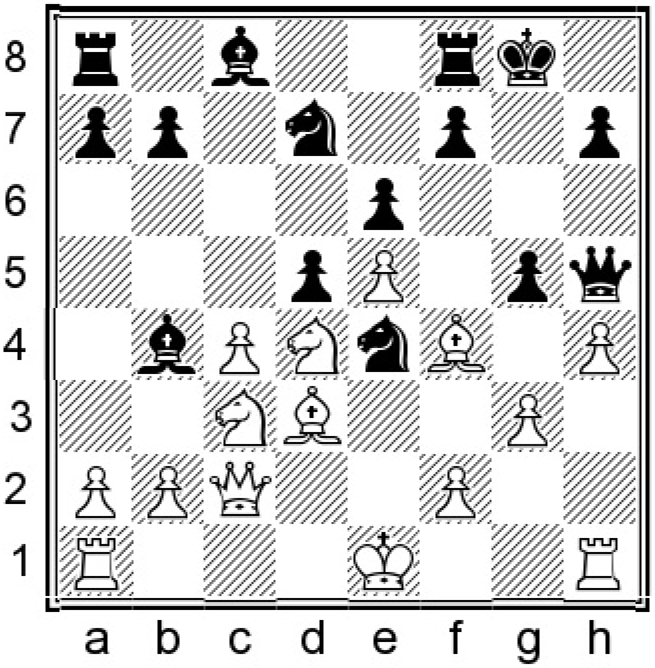
36.♕c4 f5=

36...♖f7 37.h4 ♕d5+= 38.♔h2 ♕d2+ 39.♔h3 ♕d7+ 40.♖g4+ ♔h5 41.♕xd7 ♖xd7 42.♖a4 ♔g6 43.♔g4 h5+ 44.♔f4 ♖e7 45.♖a5 ♖c7 46.♖a4 ♖e7 47.♖a5 ♖c7 48.♖a4 ♖e7 1/2-1/2

173. * !N E32
Chigaev, Maksim (2639) - Predke, Alexandr (2666)
Russia (ch) 150/173, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♕c2 O-O 5.e4 d5 6.e5 ♘e4 7.♗d3 c5 8.♘f3 cxd4 9.♘xd4 ♘d7 10.♗f4 ♕h4 11.g3 ♕h5 12.h4 ♘xe5

12...g5?

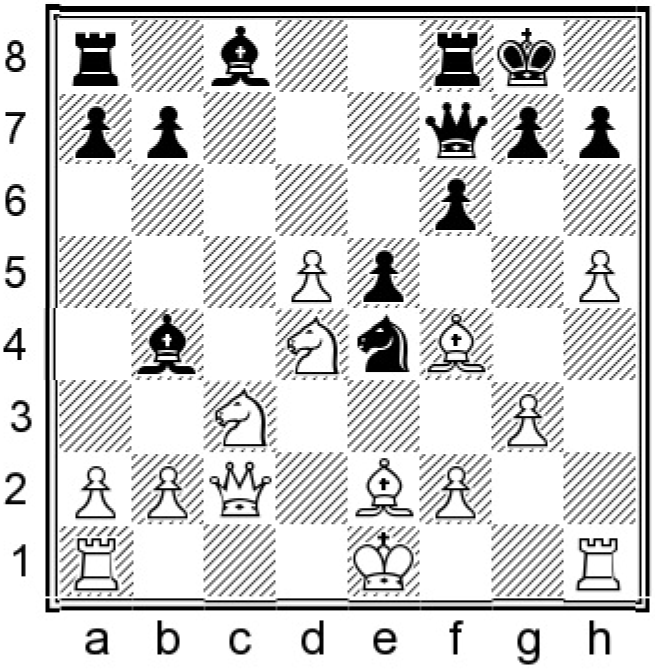


13.g4! ♕xg4 14.♗e3 ♕h5 (14...♘xe5 15.♗e2 ♕g2 16.O-O-O ♘xf2 17.♖dg1 ♕xh1 18.♖xh1 ♘xh1 19.cxd5 ♗xc3 20.bxc3 exd5 21.♘f5+-; 14...♗xc3+ 15.bxc3 ♘ec5 16.♗xh7+ ♔g7 17.hxg5+-) 15.cxd5 exd5 16.f3 ♘xc3 17.bxc3 ♗e7 18.♔d2!+-

13.♗e2 ♕g6

13...♘g4

14.♗xe5 f6 15.h5 ♕f7 16.♗f4 e5 17.cxd5



17...♕xd5!N

17...exd4? 18.♕xe4 ♗xc3+ 19.bxc3 dxc3 20.O-O+-

18.O-ON

18.O-O-O - 150/(173) 18...♗xc3?! (18...♘xc3 19.bxc3 ♗a3+ 20.♔b1 exd4∞) 19.bxc3 exf4 20.♗f3 (20.gxf4 f5 21.h6→) 20...f5 21.♘xf5 ♕xf5 (21...♕c5!?) 22.♗xe4 ♕g5 23.♗xh7+ ♔h8= Le,T (2514) - Smirnov,P (2544) chess.com (Int. -blitz) 150/(173) 2021

18...♗xc3!

18...♕xd4? 19.♗e3+-; 18...♘xc3?! 19.bxc3 exf4 20.♗f3 ♕c4 21.♘e2±

19.bxc3 exf4 20.gxf4 ♘g5

20...f5!?; 20...♔h8!?

21.fxg5

21.♕b3 ♘h3+ 22.♔h2 ♕xb3 23.axb3 ♘xf4 24.♗f3⩱

21...♕xg5+ 22.♔h2 ♕h4+ 23.♔g1 ♕g5+ 24.♔h2 ♕h4+ 25.♔g1 ♕g5+ 26.♔h2 1/2-1/2

174. E32
So, Wesley (2778) - Caruana, Fabiano (2800)
USA (ch) 150/174, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♕c2 O-O 5.a3 ♗xc3+ 6.♕xc3 d6 7.♘f3 ♖e8 8.b4 a5

8...♘bd7 - 17/593

9.♗b2 axb4 10.axb4 ♖xa1+ 11.♗xa1 b5

11...c6

12.cxb5N

12.e3 bxc4 13.♗xc4 ♗b7 14.♗e2 ♘d5=

12...♘bd7

12...♗b7 13.e3 ♗xf3 14.gxf3 ♘d5 15.♕c1 ♘d7 (15...♘xb4? 16.e4 ♘d7 17.♗e2±) 16.e4 ♘5b6⩱

13.e3 ♘b6 14.♗d3

14.♗e2 ♗d7 (14...♗b7?! 15.O-O±) 15.O-O ♕b8 (15...♘e4 16.♕c2 f5 17.♘d2 ♘xd2 18.♕xd2±) 16.♘d2 (16.♖c1 ♘bd5 17.♕c4 ♕b7=) 16...♕b7=

14...♗b7

14...♗d7 15.O-O ♕b8 16.e4 ♘a4 17.♕c4 d5 18.exd5 exd5 19.♕c2 ♗xb5 20.♗xb5 ♕xb5 21.♕xc7 ♕xb4=

15.O-O ♗xf3 16.gxf3 ♘fd5 17.♕b3 ♕h4

17...f5!?; 17...♕f6!?; 17...♕g5+ 18.♔h1 ♖a8⩱

18.♔g2

18.♖c1 ♕g5+ (18...♖a8!?) 19.♔h1 ♕h4=

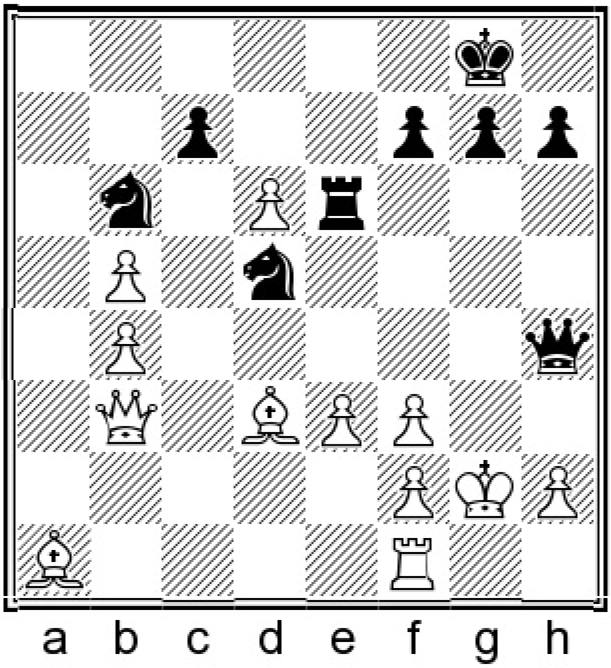
18...e5?

18...f5= Δ Rf8

19.dxe5± ♖e6?!

19...dxe5 20.♖d1 (20.♗e4 ♘f6 21.♗c6±) 20...♘f6 21.♕c2±

20.exd6??



20.♖d1! ♖h6 (20...dxe5 21.♗e4 ♘f6 22.♖d8+ ♘e8 23.♕d3 ♔f8 24.♗c6+-) 21.♔f1 ♘xe3+ 22.fxe3 ♕xh2 23.♔e1+-

20...♕g5+! 21.♔h1 ♕h5!= 22.♕b2

22.♖g1? ♕xf3+ 23.♖g2 ♘f4! 24.♗f1 ♘xg2 25.♗xg2 ♕xf2-+

22...♕xf3+ 23.♔g1 ♕g4+ 24.♔h1 ♕f3+ 25.♔g1 ♕g4+ 26.♔h1 ♕f3+ 1/2-1/2

175. E33
Nihal, Sarin (2652) - Short, Nigel D (2626)
Malmoe 150/175, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♕c2 ♘c6 5.♘f3 d6 6.♗d2 O-O 7.a3 ♗xc3 8.♗xc3 a5 9.e4 e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.♘xe5 ♘xe5

11...♕e8 - 32/578

12.♗xe5 ♖e8 13.♖d1!

13.♗xf6 ♕xf6 14.♗d3 ♗e6!? (14...♕f4) 15.O-O ♖ad8±

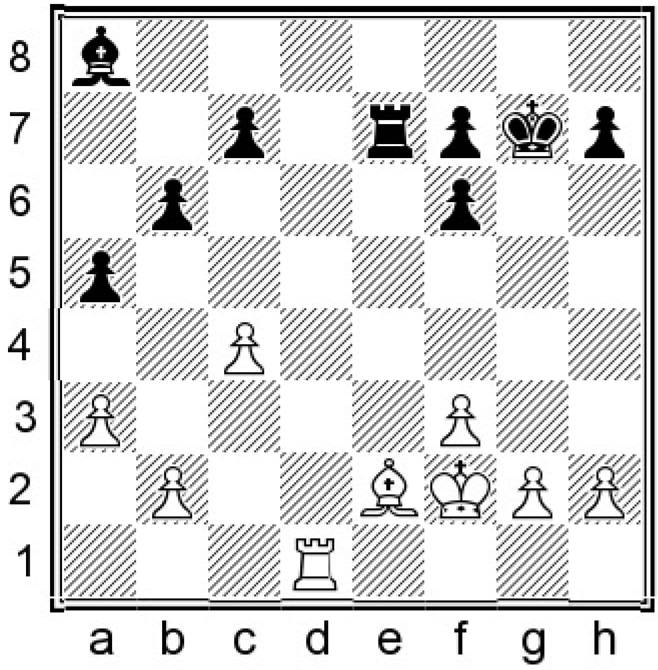
13...♕e7 14.♗xf6 ♕xe4+

14...gxf6 15.♗e2 f5 (15...♕xe4 16.♕xe4 ♖xe4 - 14...Qe4) 16.O-O (16.f3?! fxe4 17.fxe4 ♕h4+ 18.g3 ♕xe4 19.♕xe4 ♖xe4=) 16...fxe4 17.♖d5±

15.♕xe4 ♖xe4+ 16.♗e2 gxf6 17.♖d8+ ♔g7 18.f3 ♖e7 19.♔f2 b6 20.♖hd1 ♗b7 21.♖xa8N

21.♖1d7 ♖xd8 22.♖xe7 ♖c8 23.♗d3 ♔f8 24.♖d7 ♗c6 25.♖d4 h6±

21...♗xa8



22.c5!? ♗c6

22...bxc5 23.g3 ♗c6 24.♖c1 ♖e5 25.f4 ♖d5±

23.cxb6 cxb6 24.♖d6

24.♖d8 ♗a4 (24...♖e8? 25.♖xe8 ♗xe8 26.♔e3 ♗c6 27.♔d4 ♔f8 28.♗d3 h6 29.♗e4 ♗d7 30.♔d5 ♔e7 31.♗c2+-) 25.♗d3±

24...♖e6 25.♖d4 h6 26.♗c4 ♖e5 27.b4

27.♗d3 ♖d5 28.♖xd5 ♗xd5 29.♔e3 ♔f8 30.♔d4 ♗e6=

27...axb4 28.axb4 ♗a4 29.g3 ♖e7 30.♗d3 ♖d7 31.♔e3 ♖xd4 32.♔xd4 ♔f8 33.f4 1/2-1/2

176. E35
Fedoseev, Vladimir (2704) - Esipenko, Andrey (2720)
Russia (ch) 150/176, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♕c2 d5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.♗g5 h6 7.♗h4 c5 8.dxc5 g5 9.♗g3 ♘e4 10.O-O-O

10.e3 - 132/185

10...♗xc3 11.f3

11.bxc3 ♗e6 (11...♕a5 12.♖xd5 ♘xc3 13.♖e5+ ♔f8 14.♖e3 ♘xa2+ 15.♔b2 ♘c6∞; 11...♘c6!?) 12.f3 ♘xg3 13.hxg3 ♘d7 14.e4 dxe4 15.♕xe4 ♕c7∞

11...♗d2+! 12.♖xd2 ♘xd2 13.♕xd2 ♗e6

13...d4?! 14.♗d6 ♘c6 15.e3 dxe3 16.♕c3! ♖g8 17.♗b5 ♗e6 18.♘e2±

14.♗d6

14.h4 g4∞

14...♘d7 15.e4N

15.e3 ♖c8 16.♗b5 f6!? (16...a6)

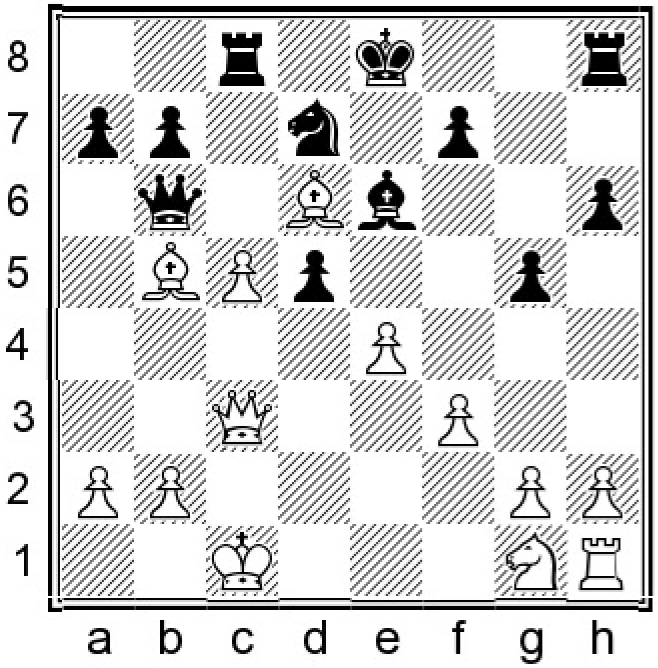
15...♖c8 16.♗b5

16.exd5 ♘xc5 17.♗b5+ ♗d7 18.♕e2+ ♘e6+ 19.♔b1 ♗xb5 20.♕xb5+ ♕d7 21.♕xd7+ ♔xd7 22.♗e5 ♖hd8 (22...♘f4 23.♗xh8 ♖xh8 24.g3 ♘xd5 25.♘e2=) 23.♗f6 (23.dxe6+ ♔xe6 24.♗c3 ♖d1+ 25.♔c2 ♖cd8! (25...♖f1 26.h4 gxh4 27.♔d3! ♖d8+ 28.♔e2 ♖dd1 29.♖xh4 ♖xg1 30.♖xh6+ ♔e7 31.♖h5=) 26.h4 gxh4 27.♖xh4 ♖xg1 28.♖xh6+ ♔d7 29.g4 ♖f1 30.♖f6 ♔e8∓) 23...♘f4 24.♗xd8 ♖xd8 25.g3 ♘xd5 26.♘e2=; 16.b4 ♘xc5!? 17.♗xc5 b6 18.♗b5+ ♗d7 19.♕xd5 ♗xb5 20.♕e5+ ♔d7 21.♕d6+ ♔e8 22.♕e5+ ♔d7=

16...♕b6

16...a6!? 17.♕c3 (17.♕d4 ♖g8 (17...f6 18.♗xd7+ ♕xd7 19.♕xf6 ♕xd6 20.♕xh8+ ♔e7 21.♕g7+ ♗f7 22.b4 a5 23.a3=) 18.♗a4 b5 19.♗c2 dxe4 20.b4=/∞) 17...♖g8!? 18.♗xd7+ ♕xd7 19.♘e2 b6 20.♖d1 bxc5 21.♗xc5 ♕b5 22.b4 ♕xe2 23.exd5=/∞

17.♕c3



17...♕xd6□ 18.♕xh8+ ♕f8 19.♗xd7+ ♗xd7

19...♔xd7 20.♕xf8 ♖xf8 21.exd5 ♗xd5 22.♘e2 ♗xa2 23.♖d1+ ♔e7 24.♘d4 ♗e6=

20.♕e5+ ♕e7

20...♔d8 21.b4∞

21.♕h8+ ♕f8 22.♕e5+ ♕e7 23.♕h8+ ♕f8 24.♕e5+ ♕e7 25.♕h8+ 1/2-1/2

177. * !N E36
Rapport, Richard (2760) - Karjakin, Sergey (2758)
Stavanger 150/177, 2021

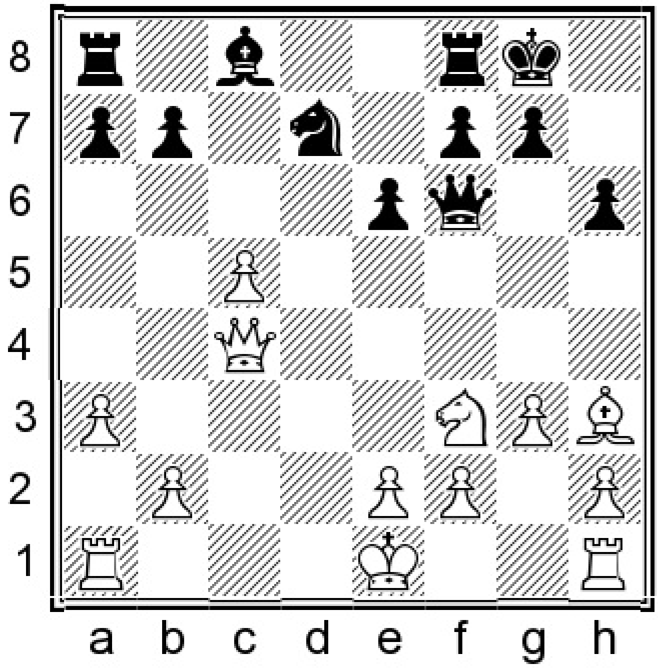
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♘f3 O-O 5.♕c2 d5 6.♗g5 h6 7.♗xf6 ♕xf6 8.a3 ♗xc3+ 9.♕xc3 dxc4 10.♕xc4 c6

10...♘c6 - 140/184

11.g3 ♘d7 12.♗h3!?

12.♕c3 c5 13.♗g2 b6∞; 12.♗g2 e5=

12...c5 13.dxc5



13...b6!

13...♕xb2

14.c6 ♕xb2

14...♘c5!? 15.♗g2 (15.O-O ♕xb2 - 14...Qb2; 15.♖b1 ♗a6 16.♕f4 ♕xf4 17.gxf4 ♘b3⩱) 15...♕xb2 16.♕d4 ♕c2∞

15.O-ON

15.♕d4 - 150/(177) 15...♕xd4 16.♘xd4 ♘c5 17.♗g2 e5 18.♘b5 ♗a6 19.a4 e4 (19...♖ac8!?) 20.♘c7 ♖ac8 21.♘xa6 ♘xa6 22.♗xe4 ♖fe8 23.♗f5 ♖c7 24.a5 b5 25.♖b1 ♘b8 26.O-O ♖e5 27.♗h3 ♖c5 28.♖fd1 ♘xc6 29.a6 g6 30.♗f1 1/2 (30) Dzenis, J-Tomasa,I corr 150/(177) 2021

15...♘c5 - 14... Qb2 **16.♘d4 ♖d8?!**

16...e5 17.♘f5 (17.♗xc8 ♖axc8 18.♘f5 ♔h7=) 17...♔h7 18.♕h4 ♕d2=

17.e3!

17.♖fd1 ♗a6 18.♕b4 ♕xb4 19.axb4 ♖xd4 20.♖xd4 ♘b3 21.♖dd1 (21.♖xa6 ♘xd4 22.♗g2 ♘xe2+ (22...♘b5!?) 23.♔f1 ♘d4 24.c7 ♖c8 25.♖xa7 ♘b5 26.♖a6 ♖xc7 27.♖xb6 ♘d4=) 21...♘xa1 22.♖xa1 ♗xe2 23.♗g2 ♖c8 24.♖xa7 ♗b5 25.c7 ♔f8 26.♖b7 ♔e7 27.♖xb6 ♗d7=

17...♗a6 18.♕b4 ♘d3

18...♕xb4 19.axb4 ♗xf1 20.♗xf1 ♘e4 21.♗a6±

19.♕xb2 ♘xb2 20.♖fb1

20.♖fc1!?

20...♘a4

20...♘d3 21.♗g2 ♖ac8 22.a4±

21.f4?!

21.c7! ♖d7 22.♘xe6 (22.♗g2 ♖c8 23.♗c6 ♖xd4 24.exd4 ♘c3 25.♖b4±) 22...♖e7 23.♖d1 fxe6 24.♖d8+ ♖e8 25.♗xe6+ ♔f8 26.♖ad1 ♔e7 27.♗d7 ♖axd8 28.cxd8=Q+ ♖xd8 29.♗xa4±

21...♘c3?!

21...♖ac8; 21...♖d6

22.♖b2

22.♖b3 ♘e2+ 23.♘xe2 ♗xe2 24.f5±; 22.♖c1 ♖xd4 23.exd4 ♘e2+ 24.♔f2 ♘xc1 25.♖xc1±

22...♘d5 23.♔f2 ♘c7

⌓23...g5

24.♖d1

24.♗g2

24...♖d6

24...♖d5!?

25.♖bd2 ♖ad8 26.♔e1 ♗c4

26...♖d5!?

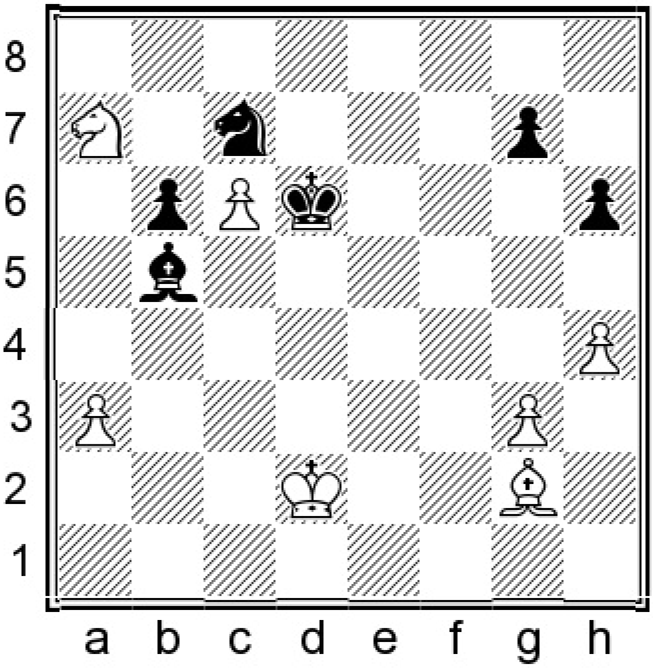
27.e4 f6 28.♗g2

28.♗g4!?

28...e5 29.fxe5 fxe5 30.♘f3 ♖xd2 31.♖xd2 ♖xd2 32.♔xd2± ♗b5 33.♘xe5 ♔f8 34.h4 ♔e7 35.♘g6+! ♔d6 36.e5+ ♔c5 37.♘e7 ♔d4

⌓37...a5

38.♘c8 ♔xe5 39.♘xa7 ♔d6



40.♘c8+?!

40.♘xb5+! ♘xb5 41.a4 ♘d4 42.h5! Δ♘xc6 43.♗xc6 ♔xc6 44.♔c3+-

40...♔c5 41.♘e7 ♘e6 42.♔c3?!

42.♔e3 ♔d6 43.♘c8+ ♔c5 44.♘a7 ♗a6

42...♔d6 43.♔b4 ♗a6?

43...♘d4! 44.♘c8+ ♔c7 45.♘a7 ♗a6=

44.♘f5+ ♔e5 45.♗h3 h5?!

45...♔d5 46.♘e3+ ♔d6 47.♘c4+ ♗xc4 48.♔xc4 ♘c7 49.♗g2+-; 45...♘d8 46.c7 ♘e6 47.c8=Q (47.♘xg7? ♘xc7=) 47...♗xc8 48.♘xg7 ♘xg7 49.♗xc8±

46.♘e3+- ♘c7 47.♗g2 g6?!

47...♔d4 48.♘f5+ ♔e5 49.♘xg7 ♗e2 50.♗h3

48.a4

48.♘c4+ ♔f5 49.♘xb6 ♔g4 50.♘d5

48...♔d4 49.♘c2+ ♔e5 50.♔c3 ♔d6 51.♗e4 ♗e2 52.♘d4 ♔e5 53.♗xg6 ♘d5+ 54.♔d2 ♗g4 55.♘b5 ♘e7 56.♗e8 ♗f3 57.c7 ♗g4 58.♗f7 ♘c6 59.♗xh5 1-0

178. E36
So, Wesley (2778) - Robson, Ray (2669)
USA (ch) 150/178, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♕c2 d5 5.a3 ♗xc3+ 6.♕xc3 O-O 7.♘f3 dxc4 8.♕xc4 b6 9.♗g5 ♗b7

10.♖d1 ♘bd7 11.♘e5 h6 12.♗h4 c5 13.f3

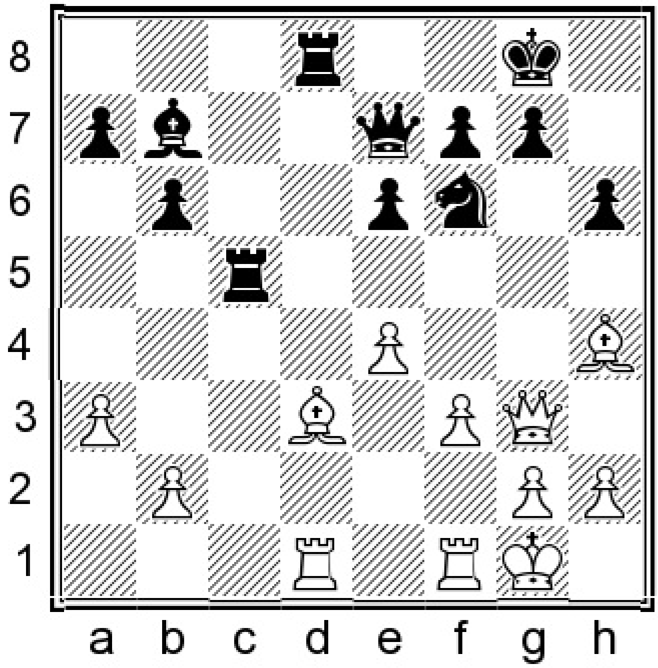
13.♘xd7 - 139/ (185)

13...cxd4 14.♕xd4 ♘xe5 15.♕xe5 ♕e7 16.e4 ♖fd8 17.♗d3N

17.♗e2

17...♖ac8 18.O-O ♖c5 19.♗xf6

19.♕g3?



19...g5! 20.b4 ♖c7! (20...♖cc8? 21.♗xg5 hxg5 22.♕xg5+ ♔h8 (22...♔f8? 23.♕h6+ ♔g8 24.e5+-) 23.♕h4+ ♔g7 24.♕g5+ ♔h8=) 21.e5 (21.♗xg5? hxg5 22.♕xg5+ ♔h8 23.e5 ♘h7 24.♕h5 ♖xd3! 25.♖xd3 ♗a6-+) 21...♘h5! 22.♕g4 ♘g7 23.♗f2 h5 24.♕g3 ♖xd3 25.♖xd3 ♗a6 26.♖dd1 ♗xf1 27.♔xf1 ♖c3∓

19...♕xf6 20.♕xf6 gxf6= 21.♔f2 ♔f8 22.♔e3

22.♗b1 ♖dc8 23.♖d7 ♗a6 24.♖fd1 ♖c1 25.♔e1 ♖1c7=

22...♔e7 23.♗b1 ♖dc8 24.♗d3 ♖d8 25.♗b1 ♖dc8 26.♗d3 ♖d8 1/2-1/2

179. E43
Shankland, Samuel L (2714) - Naroditsky, Daniel (2623)
USA (ch) 150/179, 2021

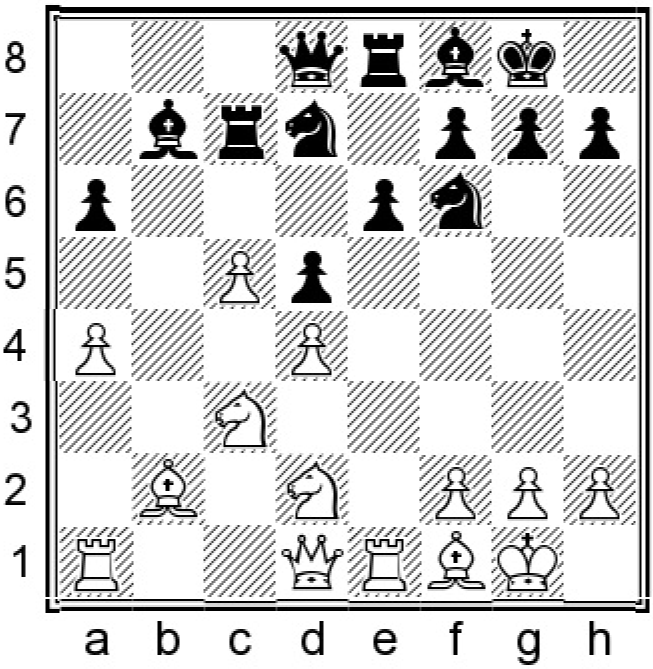
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♘f3 b6 5.e3 ♗b7 6.♗d3 c5 7.O-O cxd4 8.exd4 O-O 9.♘a4 ♗e7 10.a3 d6 11.b4 ♘bd7 12.♗b2 ♖c8 13.♖e1 ♖e8 14.♘c3 ♗f8

14...g6 - 34/676

15.♗f1 a6 16.♘d2 ♖c7N 17.a4 d5 18.c5 bxc5

18...a5 19.bxa5 (19.♘b5 ♖c6 (19...♖c8 20.♘d6 ♗xd6 21.cxd6 axb4 22.♕b3±) 20.♘a7 ♖c7 21.cxb6 ♘xb6 22.bxa5 ♘c4=∞) 19...bxc5 20.a6 ♗a8 21.♘b5 ♖c6 22.dxc5 ♗xc5 (22...♘xc5 23.a7±) 23.♖c1±

19.bxc5


8
7
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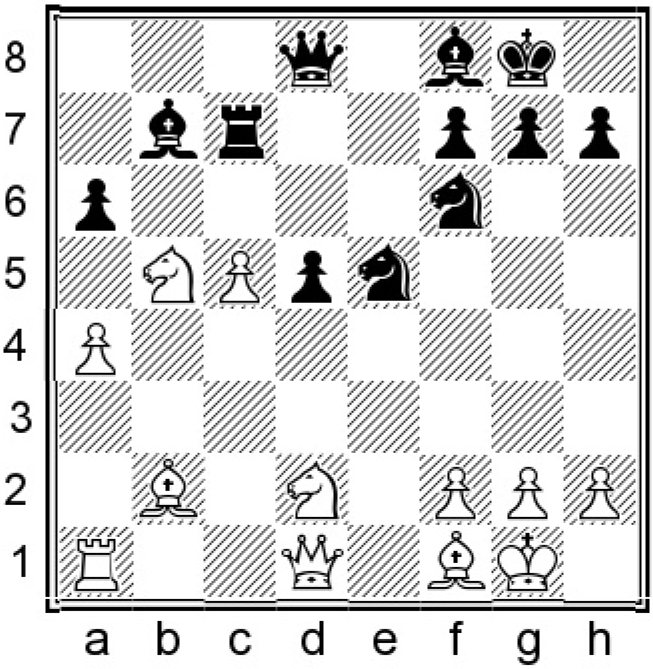
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

19.dxc5 e5∞

19...e5! 20.dxe5 ♘xe5

20...♖xe5 21.♖xe5 ♘xe5 22.♘b5


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

22...♘eg4! 23.♘xc7 ♗xc5! 24.♘e4 (24.♗xf6 ♘xf2 25.♕e2 gxf6=) 24...♘xe4□ 25.♕xg4 g6 26.♘e6 ♘xf2! 27.♕f4 ♕d6! 28.♕xd6 ♘h3+ 29.♔h1 ♘f2+ 30.♔g1=

21.♘b5! axb5 22.♗xe5 ♖ce7 23.♗xf6 ♖xe1 24.♗xd8 ♖xd1 25.♖xd1 ♖xd8 26.♗xb5

26.♖b1 ♖a8=

26...♗xc5= 27.♘b3 ♗a7 28.♘a5 ♗a8 29.♘c6 ♗xc6 30.♗xc6 d4

30...♖b8!? 31.♗xd5 ♖b2=

31.♗b5 ♖c8 32.♗d3 ♔f8

32...♗b6!?

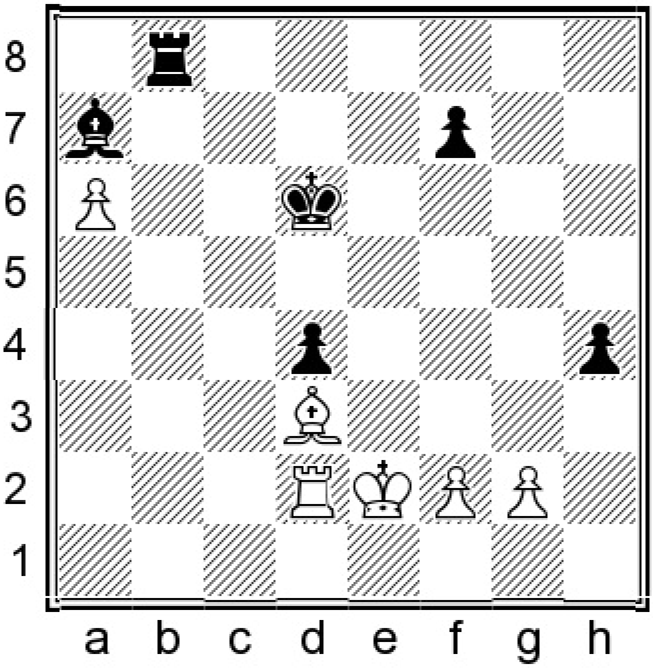
33.a5 ♖c3 34.♔f1 ♔e7 35.a6 ♔d6 36.♔e2 ♖b3 37.♖d2 g6 38.h4 ♖b4

⌓38...♖a3

39.h5 gxh5 40.♗xh7 ♖b8

⌓40...♖a4

41.♗d3 h4?

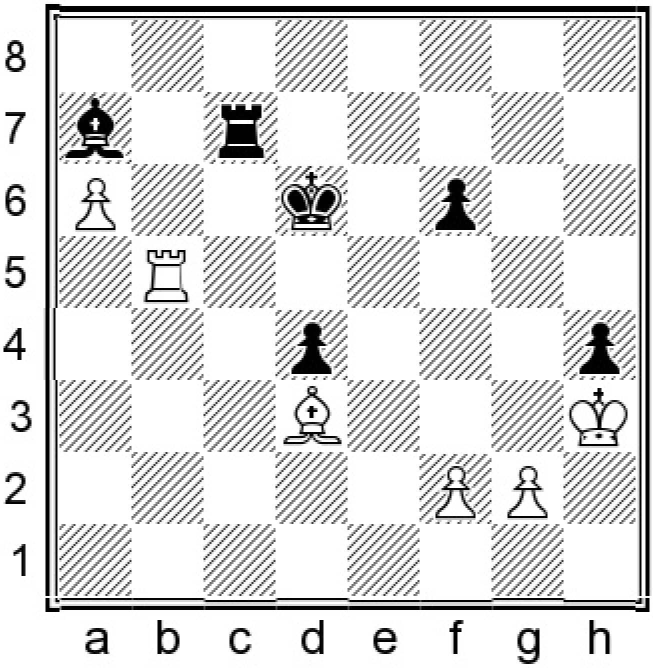


41...♖b3

42.♔f3!± ♖h8

⌓42...♖g8

43.♔g4 ♖g8+ 44.♔h3 f6 45.♖b2 ♖g7 46.♖b5 ♖c7



47.♖f5!

47.♔xh4? ♖c3=

47...♔e6 48.♔xh4 ♖c3 49.♖f3 ♔f7 50.♔g4 ♖c5

50...♖c1!?

51.♖h3+- ♖g5+ 52.♔f3 ♖g7 53.♖h7 ♖xh7 54.♗xh7 ♔e6 55.♗d3 f5 56.♔g3 ♔f6 57.f4 ♗b8 58.♔f3 1-0

180. E45
Maghsoodloo, Parham (2701) - Naiditsch, Arkadij (2660)
Espana 150/180, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.e3 O-O 5.♗d2 b6 6.♘ge2 ♗a6 7.♘g3 d5 8.♕f3N

8.cxd5 ♗xf1 9.♘xf1 ♘xd5 (9...♗xc3!?; 9...exd5!?) 10.♘xd5 ♗xd2+ 11.♘xd2 ♕xd5 12.O-O ♘d7=

8...c5

8...c6!?

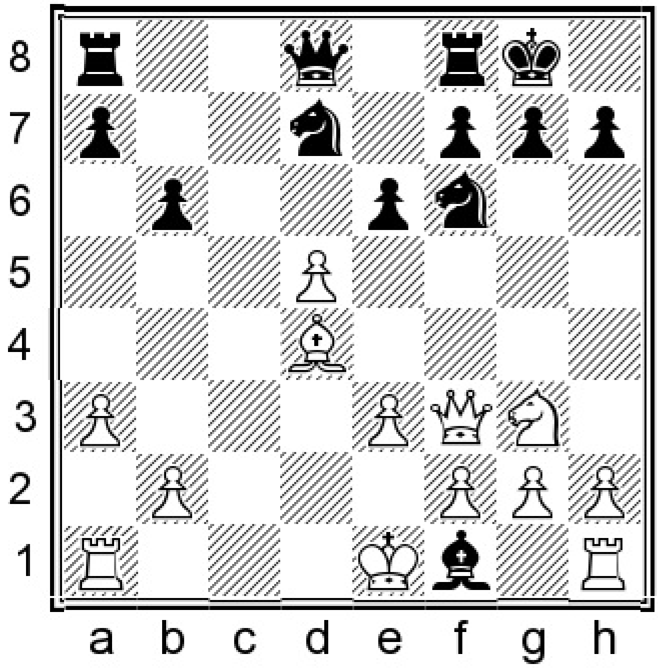
9.a3

9.cxd5 ♗xf1 (9...♗b7!?) 10.♘xf1 (10.dxe6 ♗d3 11.♕xa8 fxe6⯹ ↑) 10...exd5↑

9...♗xc3 10.♗xc3 cxd4?!

10...♘bd7 11.dxc5 bxc5 (11...♗b7 12.♕f4 bxc5∞) 12.O-O-O ♖b8 13.cxd5 ♗xf1 14.dxe6 fxe6 15.♖hxf1 ♘d5 16.♕e4 ♘xc3 17.♕xe6+ ♖f7 18.bxc3 ♕a5⯹; 10...♗b7!?

11.♗xd4 ♘bd7 12.cxd5 ♗xf1



13.dxe6!

13.♘xf1 e5 14.♗c3 ♘c5 15.♘g3 ♕xd5=; 13.♖xf1 ♘xd5 14.O-O-O∞

13...fxe6 14.♔xf1 e5

⌓14...♘d5 15.♕e4 ♕e8

15.♗c3 ♘c5 16.♕e2!

16.♗xe5? ♘b3 17.♖d1 ♘d2+ 18.♔e2 ♘xf3 19.♖xd8 ♘xe5-+; 16.♖d1 ♕c7 17.♕e2 ♘a4 18.♗e1 ♖ad8=∞

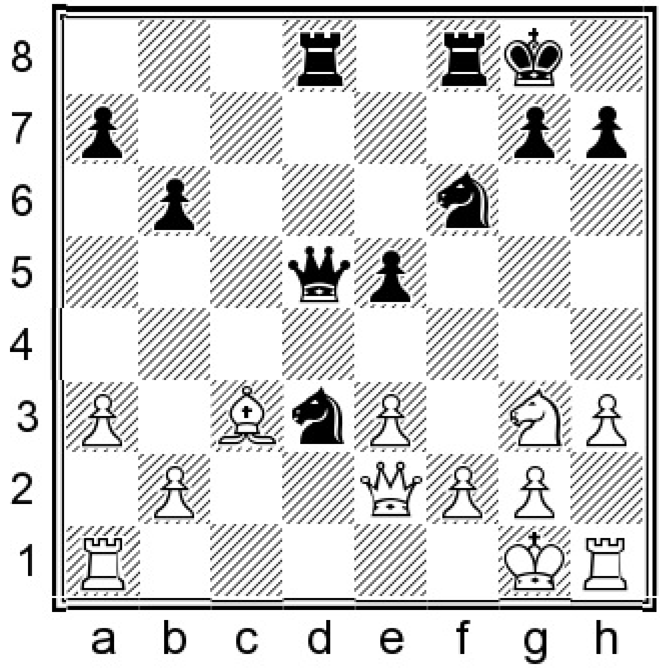
16...♕d5 17.♔g1

17.♖d1!? ♕e6 18.♔g1±

17...♖ad8

17...♘fe4 18.♗e1 ♖ad8 19.♘xe4 ♕xe4 20.♗b4±; 17...♖ac8!?

18.h3 ♘d3?!



18...♘fe4 19.♘xe4 ♘xe4 20.♗e1 ♘c5±

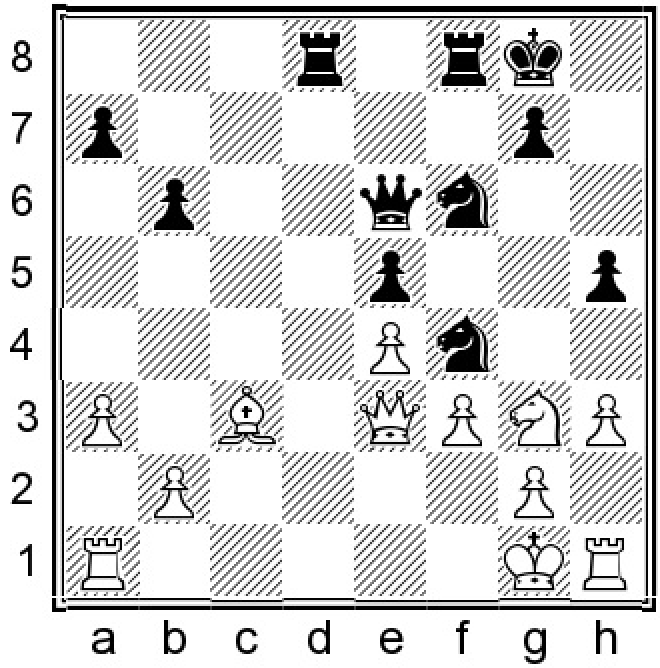
19.f3!± h5

⌓19...e4

20.e4

20.♔h2!

20...♕e6 21.♕e3 ♘f4



⌓21...h4

22.♘e2!+- g5 23.♔h2 h4 24.♘xf4 exf4

24...gxf4 25.♕f2 ♔f7 26.♖hd1

25.♕e2 ♔f7 26.♕b5 1-0

181. E48
Bluebaum, Matthias (2641) - Kovalenko, Igor (2647)
Deutschland 150/181, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.e3 O-O 5.♗d3 c5 6.♘e2 d5 7.cxd5 cxd4 8.exd4 ♘xd5 9.O-O ♘c6 10.a3 ♗d6 11.♖e1

11.♘e4 - 67/635

11...♕h4N

11...♘ce7; 11...♘xc3; 11...♖e8

12.g3 ♕h5 13.♘xd5 exd5 14.♗f4 ♖d8

14...♗e7!?

15.♕d2

15.♗xd6 ♖xd6 16.♘f4 ♕xd1 17.♖axd1 ♗d7=

15...♗g4

15...♗f8!?

16.h4

16.♗xd6 ♖xd6 17.♘f4 ♕h6 18.♗b5

16...♗xe2?!

16...♗e7 17.♗e3 ♗d6 18.♘f4 ♗xf4 19.♗xf4 h6=

17.♗xe2 ♗xf4 18.♕xf4 ♕g6 19.♗f3

19.♗b5!?

19...♔f8 20.♖ad1± ♕d6 21.♕g5

21.♕d2±

21...h6 22.♕h5

22.♕d2

22...♖ac8

22...♖d7!?

23.♗g2

23.♖e3!?

23...♖c7 24.♕f3?! ♖e7

24...g6=

25.♖xe7 ♕xe7 26.h5

26.♕c3!?

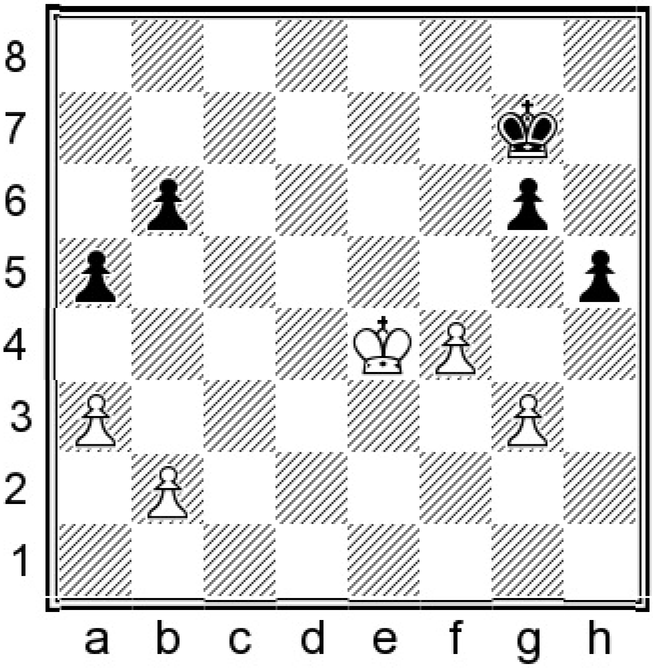
26...♕g5= 27.♗h3 ♔g8

27...♖d6!?

28.♗g2 a6 29.♗h3 ♕e7 30.♗g2 ♕g5 31.♗h3 ♖e8 32.♗f5 ♕f6 33.♕xd5 ♖d8 34.♕e4 ♘xd4 35.♗g4 b6 36.♖d3 a5 37.♗d7 ♘e6

37...♖xd7!? 38.♕e8+ ♔h7 39.♕xd7 ♘f3+ 40.♔g2 ♘e1+ 41.♔f1 ♘xd3 42.♕xd3+ ♔g8=

38.♗xe6 ♖xd3 39.♕xd3 ♕xe6= 40.♕d8+ ♔h7 41.♕d3+ g6 42.hxg6+ fxg6 43.♔g2 h5 44.f4 ♔g7 45.♔f3 ♕c6+ 46.♕e4?? ♕xe4+ 47.♔xe4



47...a4!-+ 48.♔f3 ♔f7! 49.g4

49.♔e3 ♔f6 50.♔e4 ♔e6 51.♔e3 ♔f5 52.♔f3 b5

49...hxg4+! 50.♔xg4 ♔f6 51.♔g3 ♔e6! 52.♔f2 ♔d5 53.♔e3 ♔c4 54.♔e4 b5 55.♔e5 ♔d3 0-1

182. * !N E49
Sargissian, Gabriel (2664) - Praggnanandhaa, Rameshbabu (2618)
Riga 150/182, 2021

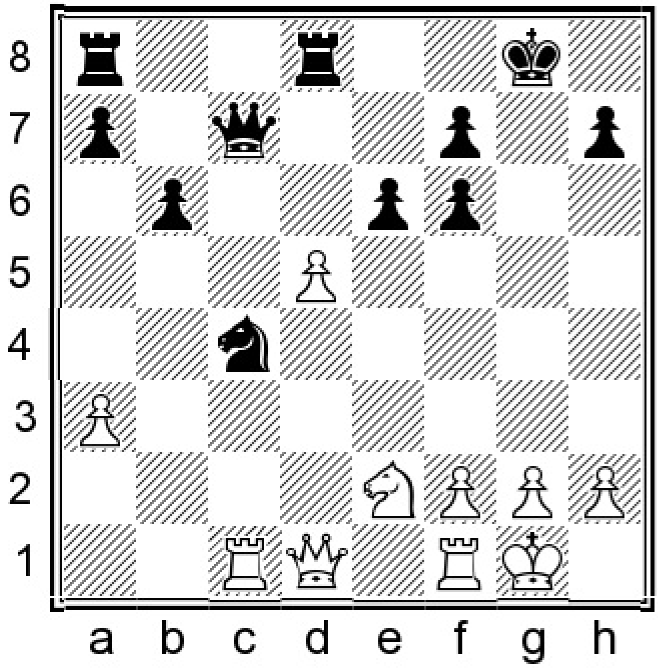
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.e3 O-O 5.♗d3 d5 6.a3 ♗xc3+ 7.bxc3 dxc4 8.♗xc4 c5 9.♘e2 ♕c7 10.♗a2 b6 11.O-O ♗a6 12.♗b2 ♘c6 13.♖c1 ♖fd8

13...♖ac8 - 145/183

14.c4 cxd4 15.exd4 ♘a5 16.d5! ♗xc4

16...♘xc4? 17.♗xf6 ♖xd5 (17...gxf6 18.♕a4+-) 18.♗d4 e5 19.♕a4+-; 16...e5!?

17.♗xc4 ♘xc4 18.♗xf6 gxf6



19.♘g3!

19.♕d4 exd5 20.♕xf6 ♕e5 21.♕h4=∞ (21.♕f3?! ♘d2 22.♕g4+ ♕g7 23.♕xg7+ ♔xg7 24.♖fd1 ♘c4 25.♖c3 ♖ac8)

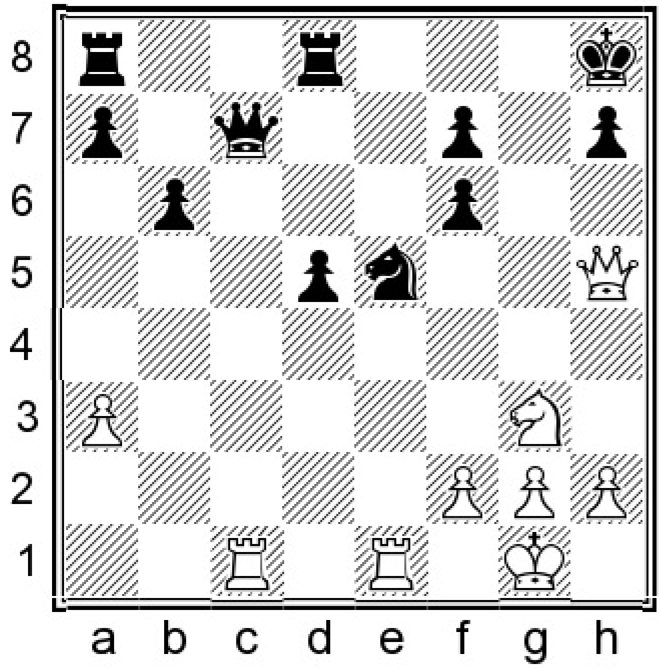
19...exd5 20.♕g4+N

20.♘h5 - 150/(182) 20...♔h8□ 21.♖e1 ♕d6 22.♕d4 ♘e5 23.♕f4 (23.♘xf6 ♕xf6 24.♖xe5 ♖d6 25.h3=∞) 23...♖g8 (23...♕e6!?) 24.♘xf6 ♖g6 25.♘h5 ♖e8 26.♕d4 f6 27.♖e3=∞ Parligras,M (2591)-Gavrilescu,D (2477) Reykjavik 150/(182) 2021

20.♕f3!? ♕e5 21.♘f5 ♔h8 22.♖fe1 ♕b2 (22...♘d2 23.♕h5 ♕f4 24.♘h6→) 23.♕h5→

20...♔h8 21.♖fe1 ♖g8

21...♘e5 22.♕h5



22...♕b8□ (22...♕d6? 23.♘f5 ♕f8 24.♕h4 ♖d6 25.♘xd6 ♕xd6 26.♖c3+-; 22...♕d7 23.♕h6 ♕e6 24.f4 ♘g4 25.♕h3+-) 23.♖cd1=∞

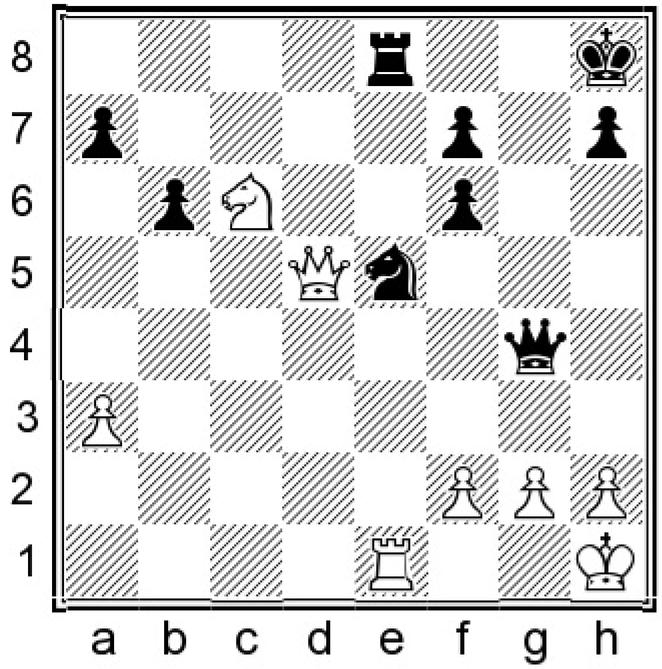
22.♕d4 ♕d8 23.♘f5 [Δ Ne7] **23...♘e5! 24.♔h1 ♖c8 25.♖xc8?!**

25.f4 ♘c6 (25...♕d7 26.♖xc8 ♖xc8 27.♘e3 ♘g4 28.h3 ♘xe3 29.♕xf6+ ♔g8 30.♕g5+=; 25...♖xc1 26.♖xc1 ♕d7 27.♘g3 ♕g4! 28.♖d1=∞) 26.♕d3=∞

25...♕xc8 26.♘e7

26.♘e3!?

26...♕g4 27.♕xd5 ♖e8 28.♘c6


8
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f
g
h

28.♖e4!?

28...♕f4

28...♕c8! 29.♕d6 ♔g7 30.♘xe5 ♖xe5! 31.♖d1 ♕e6∓

29.f3 ♖c8?!

29...♔g7

30.♘xe5

30.♘e7⩱

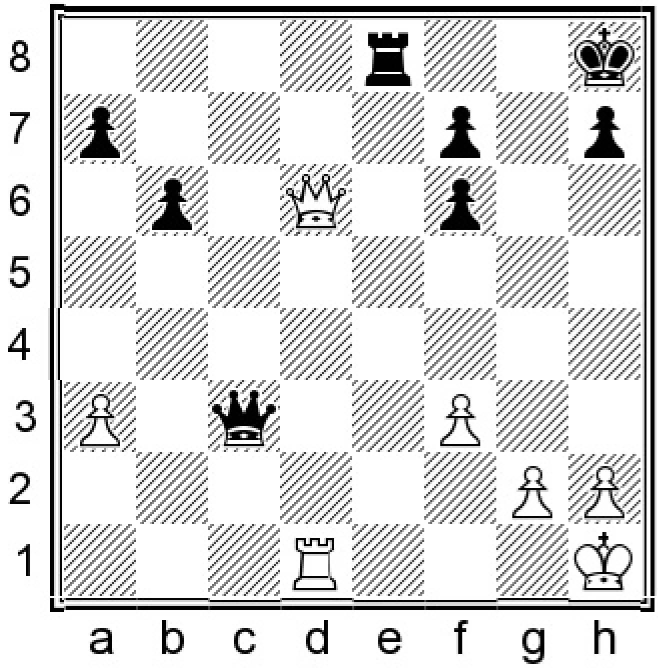
30...♕xe5!

30...fxe5 31.g3=

31.♕d1 ♕b2

⌓31...♕g5

32.♕d6 ♕c3 33.♖d1 ♖e8?!



8
7
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3
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1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

33...♕e5∓

34.h4!

34.h3!

34...♕e5 35.♕xe5 ♖xe5 36.♖d7= ♖a5 37.♖xf7 ♖xa3 38.♖xf6 ♔g7 39.♖c6 b5 40.♖c7+ ♔g6 41.h5+ ♔h6 42.♖c6+ ♔g7 43.♖c7+ ♔h6 44.♖c6+ 1/2-1/2

E50-E74

183. * !N E52
Keymer, Vincent (2639) - Bjerre, Jonas Buhl (2569)
Terme Catez 150/183, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 ♗b4 5.e3 O-O 6.♗d2 b6 7.cxd5 exd5 8.♖c1 ♖e8 9.♗d3 ♗b7 10.O-O

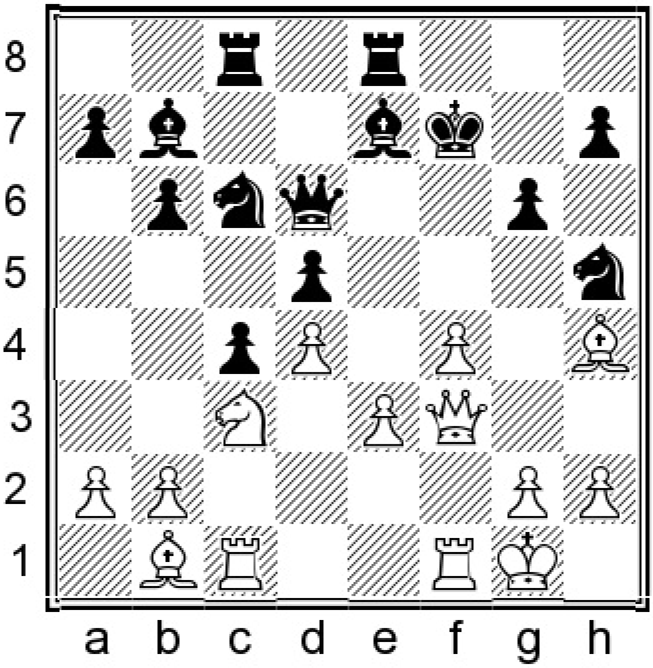
10.♘b5 - 144/185

10...♗f8 11.♘e5 c5 12.f4 ♘c6 13.♘e2

13.♘xd5!? ♕xd5! (13...♘xd5? 14.♗xh7+ ♔xh7 15.♕h5+ ♔g8 16.♕xf7+ ♔h7 17.♖f3+-) 14.♗c4 ♕xg2+!? (14...♕d8 15.♘xf7 ♕c7 16.♘e5+ ♔h8 17.♘f7+=) 15.♔xg2 ♘xe5+ 16.♔g1 ♘xc4 17.♖xc4 ♖ad8⯹

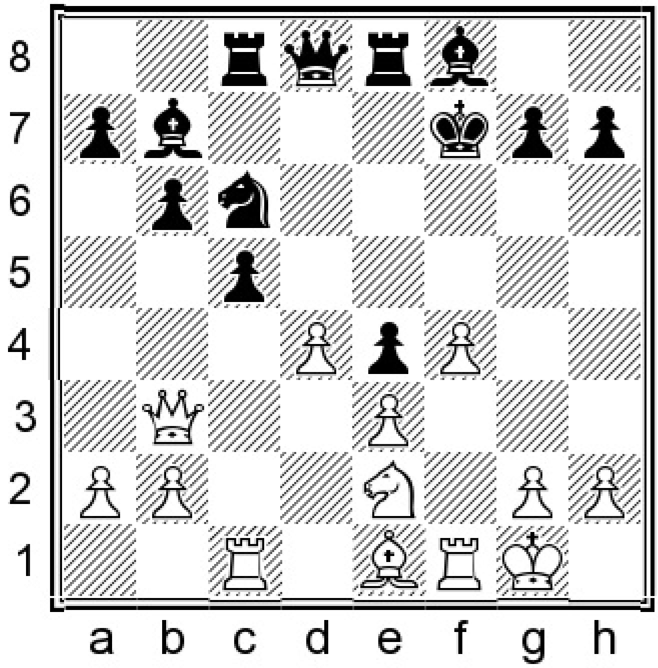
13...♖c8 14.♗e1 ♘e4!N - 150/183

14...cxd4 15.exd4 ♘e4 16.♗b5! ♖e6 17.h3 f6 18.♘xc6 ♗xc6 19.♗a6 ♖c7 20.f5 ♖e8 21.♘f4±; 14...♕d6N 15.♗h4 c4?! (15...cxd4=) 16.♗b1 ♗e7? 17.♘c3! [Δ 18.Bf6 Bf6 19.Bh7 Kh7 20.Qh5±] 17...g6 (17...a6 18.♗xf6 ♗xf6 19.♗xh7+ ♔xh7 20.♕h5+ ♔g8 21.♕xf7+ ♔h7 22.♖f3+-; 17...♖f8 18.♕f3± (18.♕c2±)) 18.♕f3 ♘h5? (18...♘e4) 19.♘xf7! ♔xf7



20.f5! ♘f6 21.fxg6+ hxg6 22.♕xd5+ (22.♕g4 ♖g8 23.♖xf6+ ♗xf6 24.♖f1 ♘e7 25.♖xf6+ ♕xf6 26.♗xf6 ♔xf6 27.h4+-) 22...♕xd5 23.♘xd5 ♘xd4 24.♘xe7 ♘e2+ 25.♔h1 ♖h8 (25...♔xe7 26.♖ce1 ♖f8 27.♖xe2 ♔e6 28.♖ef2 ♘d7 29.♗xg6 ♗xg2+ 30.♔xg2 ♖g8 31.♖f6+ ♘xf6 32.♖xf6+ ♔e5 33.♗g5 c3 34.bxc3 ♖xc3 35.h4 ♖xe3 36.h5 ♖e2+ 37.♖f2+-; 25...♘xc1 26.♘xc8 ♖e6 27.♖xc1 ♗xc8 28.♖xc4+-) 26.♗xg6+ ♔xe7 27.♗xf6+ ♔d6 28.♖cd1+ ♔c5 29.♖f5+ ♔b4 30.a3+ ♔b3 31.♖b5+ ♔a4 32.♖b4+ ♔a5 33.♗xh8 ♖xh8 34.♖xc4 ♘g3+ 35.♔g1 ♖g8 36.♖g4 ♘e2+ 37.♔f2 ♗a6 38.b4+ 1-0 (38) Gara,T (2331)-Bulmaga,I (2405) Terme Catez 150/(183) 2021

15.♗xe4 dxe4 16.♘xf7!? ♔xf7 17.♕b3+

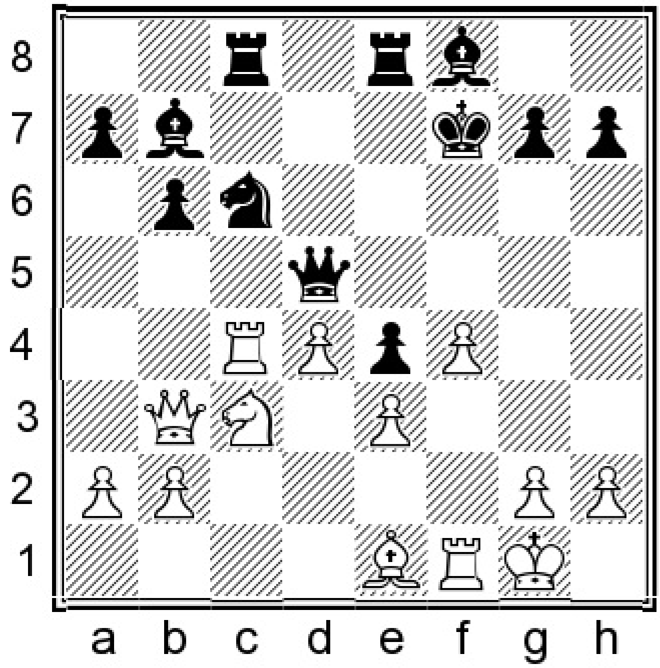


17...c4!

17...♔g6 18.f5+ ♔h6 19.♗g3 ♗d6 20.f6! c4! (20...g6 21.dxc5 (21.♗f4+ ♗xf4 22.♖xf4±) 21...♗xg3 22.♘xg3±) 21.♕d1! gxf6 22.♘f4 ♗xf4 23.♖xf4 ♖g8 24.♖h4+ ♔g7 25.♕h5 ♕e7 26.♖f1! ♔h8 27.♖xf6→

18.♕xc4+

18.♖xc4!? ♕d5! 19.♘c3



19...♘xd4!! (19...♘a5? 20.♖xc8! ♘xb3 (20...♖xc8 21.♕xd5+ ♗xd5 22.♘xd5+-) 21.♖c7+!+-) 20.♖xd4! (20.♖xc8? ♖xc8 21.♕xd5+ ♗xd5 22.exd4 (22.♘xd5 ♘e2+ 23.♔f2 (23.♔h1 ♖c1-+) 23...♖c2-+) 22...♗c4 23.♖f2 ♖d8 24.♘xe4 ♖xd4 25.♘c3 ♗c5∓) 20...♕xb3 21.axb3 ♗c5 22.♖d7+ ♖e7 23.♖xe7+ ♗xe7⩱

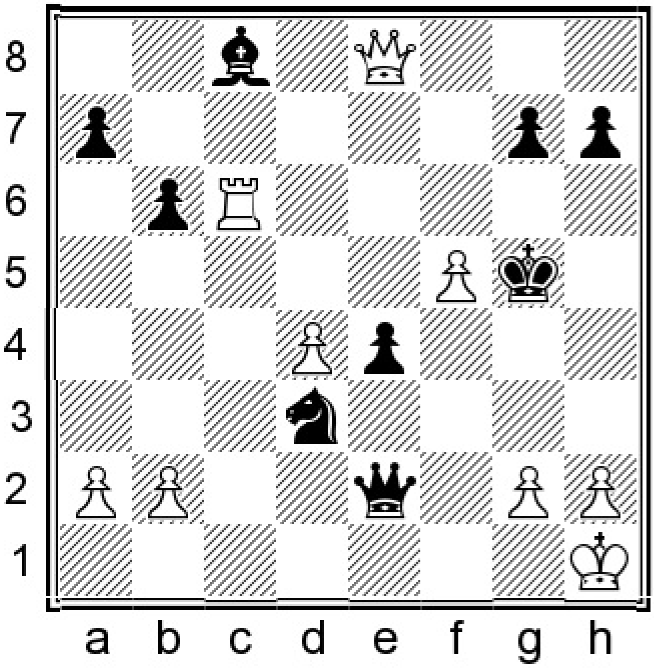
18...♔g6 19.f5+ ♔h6 20.♗g3 ♘e5! 21.♕g8! ♗e7!

21...♘d3? 22.♖xc8 ♗xc8 23.f6! gxf6 (23...♗e6 24.f7+-) 24.♖f4!!+-

22.♖xc8 ♗xc8 23.♗f4+ ♗g5 24.♗xg5+ ♕xg5 25.♕xe8 ♕xe3+ 26.♔h1 ♕xe2 27.♖c1

27.♖a1 ♕xb2 28.♖f1 ♕e2∞

27...♘d3 28.♖c6+ ♔g5



29.♕e7+?

29.h3! ♗xf5 30.♕e7+ ♔h5 31.♕xg7 ♕f1+ 32.♔h2 ♕f4+=

29...♔f4-+ 30.h3

30.♕h4+ ♔e3 31.♕g3+ ♔d2-+

30...♕e1+ 31.♔h2 ♕g3+ 32.♔h1

32.♔g1 ♕f2+ 33.♔h2 ♘e1-+

32...♘f2+ 33.♔g1 ♘xh3+ 34.♔h1 ♕e1+

34...♕e1+ 35.♔h2 ♕g1+ 36.♔xh3 ♕h1#

0-1

184. E52
Kovalenko, Igor (2647) - Brkic, Ante (2621)
Zagreb 150/184, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♘f3 O-O 5.e3 d5 6.♗d2 b6 7.cxd5 exd5 8.♖c1 ♗b7 9.♗d3 a6 10.♘e5 ♗d6 11.O-O c5 12.f4

12.♗b1 - 144/187

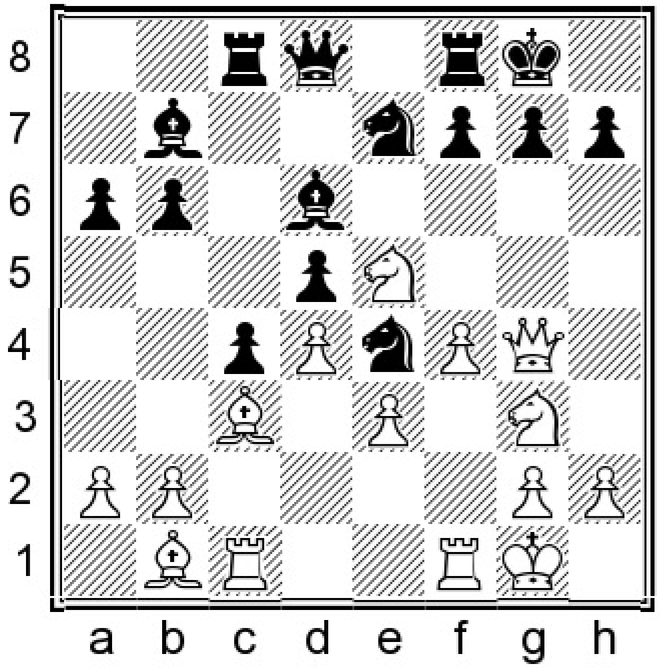
12...♘c6 13.♘e2 ♖c8 14.♗c3 c4N

14...♘e7 15.b3!? (15.dxc5 bxc5 16.♘g3 d4=) 15...c4!? 16.bxc4 dxc4 17.♘xc4 ♘f5⩱

15.♗b1 ♘e7 16.♘g3

16.f5!? b5 17.♘f4 a5∞

16...♘e4! 17.♕g4



17.♕h5 f5 18.♗e1 b5∞; 17.♘h5!?

17...f5! 18.♕h3 b5∞ 19.♗e1 ♕e8 20.♘h5 ♔h8

20...♖a8! ∆ Bc8

21.♔h1 b4 22.♖g1 g6 23.♘g3 a5

23...♘f6!?

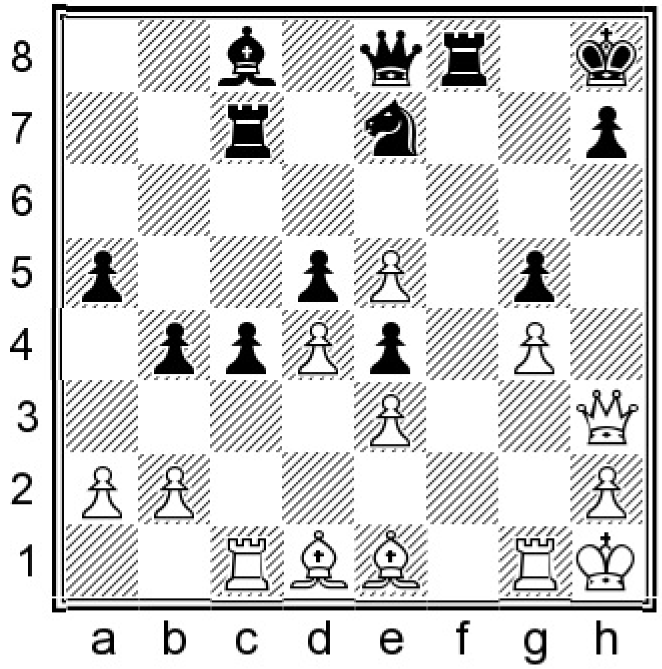
24.♘xe4 fxe4 25.♗c2 ♖c7 26.♗d1 ♗c8

⌓26...♗xe5 27.dxe5 (27.fxe5?! ♗c8 28.g4 - 26...Bc8) 27...d4 28.exd4 ♘d5=∞↑

27.g4 ♗xe5 28.fxe5?!

28.dxe5 ♗e6∞

28...g5?!



28...♗e6∓

29.♕h6!± ♖g8

29...♘g6!? 30.♕xg5 ♖g7 31.♕h6±

30.♕b6 ♖b7 31.♕xa5 ♗e6 32.♖c2

32.♖f1!?

32...♖f8

32...♕d7!?; 32...♕b8!?

33.♖f2 ♖xf2 34.♗xf2 ♘c6 35.♕c5 ♖a7?

35...b3! 36.axb3 ♘b4=∞

36.♗e1± ♖xa2 37.♖f1

37.♗xb4

37...♔g7?!

37...♘e7 38.♕xb4±

38.♗xb4 ♖xb2?!

38...♘xb4 39.♕xb4±

39.♖f8+- ♕e7

39...♕d7 40.♖f6!

40.♕xe7+ ♘xe7 41.♗xe7 c3 42.♖f1

42.♖f6!? ♗f7 (42...♖b1 43.♗f8+! ♔h8 44.♔g2! ♖xd1 (44...♗g8 45.e6 ♖xd1 46.e7 c2 47.e8=Q c1=Q 48.♕e5) 45.♖xe6 c2 46.♗h6) 43.♖f1

42...h5!?

42...c2 43.♗xc2 ♖xc2 44.♗f8+ ♔h8 45.♗h6 ♖c8 46.h3 ♖g8 47.♖a1

43.♗f8+?!

43.♗xg5?? ♗xg4 44.♗xg4 c2!=; 43.gxh5

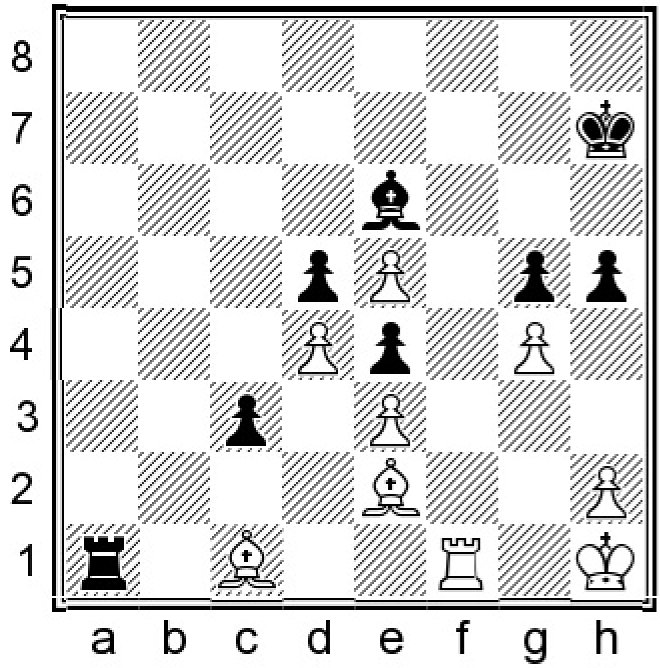
43...♔h7?

43...♔g8

44.♗a3

44.♖f6! ♖b1 (44...c2 45.♗xc2 ♗xg4 46.♖c6+-) 45.♔g2! ♖xd1 46.♖xe6 c2 47.♗a3 ♖d2+ (47...♖a1 48.♖c6 ♖xa3 49.gxh5 ♖xe3 50.♖xc2+-) 48.♔h3 ♖d3 49.♗c1 ♖d1 50.gxh5 ♖xc1 51.♖c6+-

44...♖a2 45.♗c1 ♖a1 46.♗e2?



46.♗b3+-

46...hxg4?

46...h4!=

47.♔g2+- ♖a2 48.♖e1 ♔g6 49.♔g3 ♗d7 50.♗d1 1-0

185. E60

Alekseenko, Kirill (2693) - Ragger, Markus (2665)
Struga 150/185, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.h4 ♗g7 4.♘c3 c5 5.d5 e6

5...O-O - 148/(194)

6.h5N

6.e4

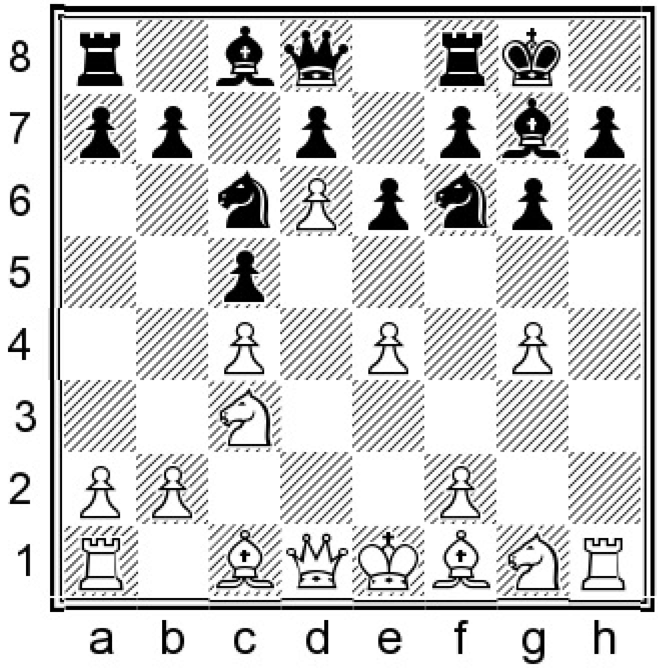
6...♘xh5 7.g4 ♘f6 8.d6

8.g5 ♘h5 9.e4 exd5 10.♘xd5 (10.exd5 ♗xc3+! 11.bxc3 d6 12.♗e2 ♘g7∓; 10.cxd5 d6 11.♗e2 ♘d7 12.♗xh5 gxh5 13.♕xh5 ♘e5∓) 10...♘c6 11.♗e2 d6 12.♗xh5 gxh5 13.♗f4 ♗e6∞

8...O-O?!

8...♘xg4! 9.♘b5 ♘a6 10.e4 ♘e5 11.f4 ♘c6 12.♘f3 (12.e5 b6 13.♖h3 ♗b7∓) 12...b6∓

9.e4 ♘c6



10.♕f3! h5?!

10...♘d4 11.♕h3 ♘c2+ (11...h5 12.gxh5 ♘xh5 13.♗e2+- - 10...h5) 12.♔d1 ♘xa1 13.e5+-; 10...b5 11.♕h3 ♗b7 12.♗g5 ♖e8 13.♘f3±

11.gxh5 ♘xh5 12.♗e2 ♘d4 13.♕h3

13.♕g2 ♘c2+ 14.♔f1 ♘xa1 15.♗xh5 gxh5 (15...♗xc3 16.bxc3 ♕f6 17.♗e2 ♕xc3 18.♗g5 ♘c2 19.♕h2+-) 16.e5 f5 17.♗h6 ♖f7 18.♕g6 ♘c2 19.♘f3+-

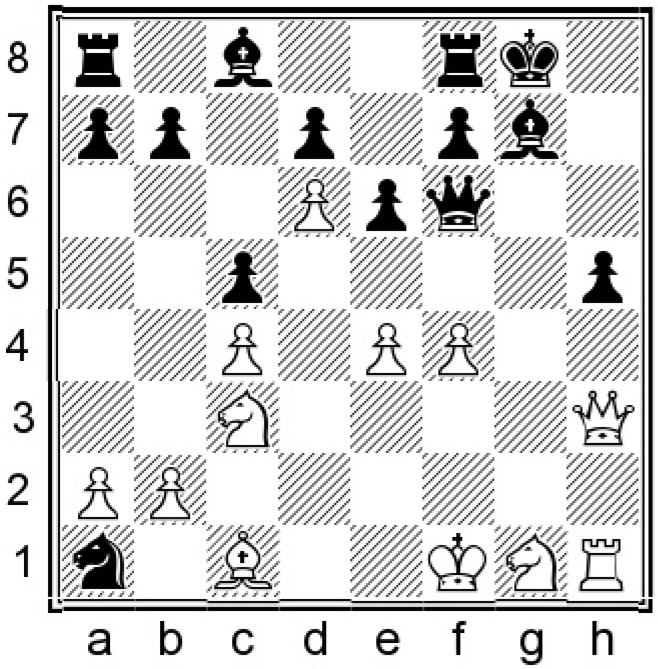
13...♕f6

13...♘xe2 14.♘gxe2 ♗xc3+ 15.♕xc3 ♕f6 16.♕e3 ♕g7 17.♗d2 f6 18.O-O-O b6 19.♖dg1+-

14.f4 ♘c2+

14...♘xe2 15.♘gxe2 ♖e8 16.♕f3 ♖b8 17.♗e3 b6 18.O-O-O ♗b7 19.♖dg1+-

15.♔f1 ♘xa1 16.♗xh5 gxh5



17.f5!+- ♖e8

17...exf5 18.♘d5 ♕xd6 19.♗f4 ♕e6 20.exf5+-

18.♕xh5 exf5 19.♘d5! ♕d4

19...♕xd6 20.♕h7+ ♔f8 21.♗h6+-

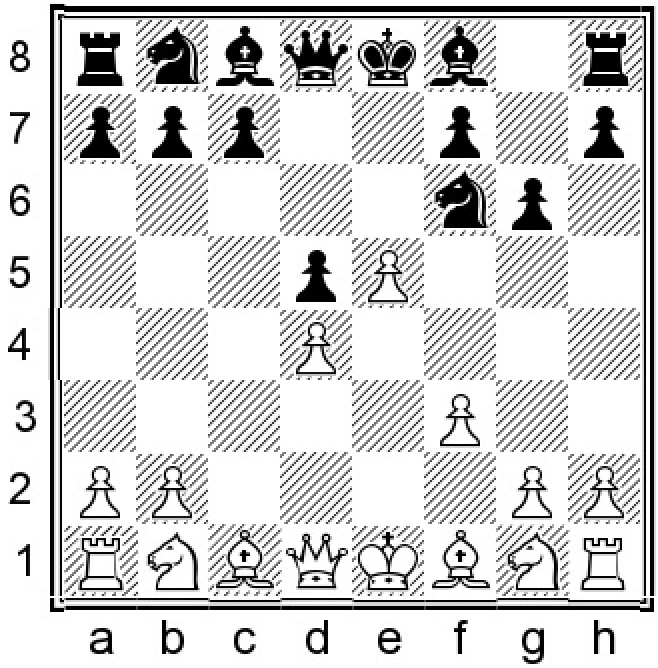
20.♘e2 1-0

186. !N E60
So, Wesley (2778) - Duda, Jan Krzysztof (2756)
chess24.com (Int.-m/1-rapid) 150/186, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 e6 4.e4 d5

4...c5 - 148/187

5.cxd5 exd5 6.e5



6...♘fd7!N

6...♘h5

7.♘c3

7.♗e3 c5 8.♗b5 (8.♘c3 - 7.Nc3) 8...♘c6 9.♘c3 ♗g7 10.f4 cxd4 11.♗xd4 O-O 12.♘f3 f6 13.♗f2 (13.e6 ♘b6 14.f5 gxf5 15.♗c5 ♖e8 16.O-O ♗xe6∞) 13...♘b6 14.exf6 ♕xf6∞

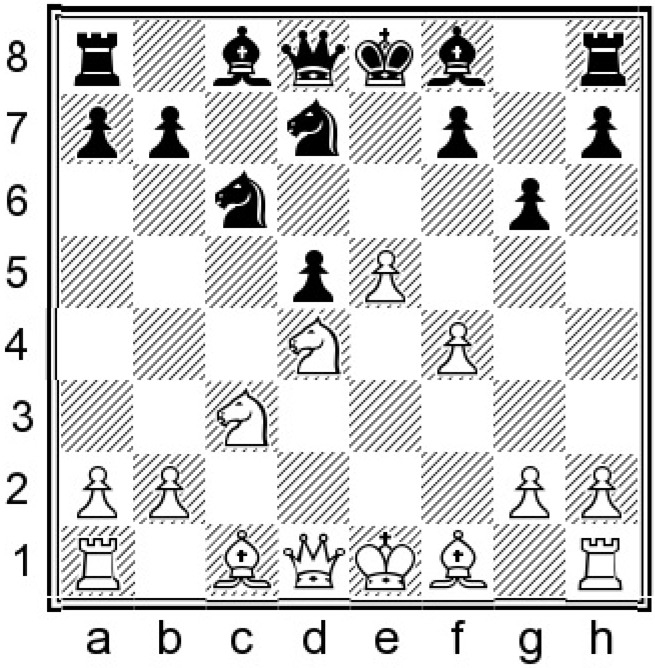
7...c5 8.f4

8.♘xd5?! ♗g7 (8...cxd4 9.♕xd4 ♗g7 (9...♘c6 10.♕f4 ♗g7 11.♕g5 O-O 12.♕xd8 ♖xd8 13.♗g5 ♖e8 14.O-O-O ♖xe5∞) 10.♘f6+ ♗xf6 11.exf6 O-O 12.♗g5 ♘c6 13.♕c3 ♖e8+ 14.♗e2 ♖e5∞) 9.dxc5 ♘xe5 10.♘e2 O-O 11.♘ec3 ♘bc6 12.♗e2 ♗e6 13.O-O ♘d4!∓

8...♘c6 9.♘f3

9.♘xd5 cxd4 10.♗c4 b5 (10...♘b4 11.♘xb4 ♗xb4+ 12.♗d2 ♗e7 13.e6 fxe6 14.♘f3 O-O 15.♗xe6+ ♔g7 16.O-O ♘c5 17.♗c4 ♘e4∞) 11.♗b3 ♗b7 12.♘f3 ♘b4 13.♘f6+ ♘xf6 14.exf6 ♕xf6 15.O-O O-O-O 16.♘e5 ♗c5∞

9...cxd4 10.♘xd4



10...♘dxe5! 11.♗b5

11.fxe5 ♕h4+ 12.g3 ♕xd4 13.♕xd4 ♘xd4 14.♘xd5 ♗f5 15.♘f6+ ♔d8 16.g4 ♗e6∓

11...a6 12.♗a4 ♗d7

12...♗c5!? 13.♗e3 ♗g4 14.♕d2 ♗xd4 15.♗xd4 ♘c4 16.♗xc6+ bxc6 17.♕f2 ♕e7+ 18.♔f1 O-O 19.h3 ♗f5 20.♔g1 ♖ae8 21.♔h2 h5∓

13.♘xc6?!

13.O-O ♗c5 14.fxe5 ♗xd4+ 15.♔h1 ♗xe5 16.♕xd5 ♕e7 17.♗g5 f6 18.♗xf6 ♗xf6 19.♖ae1 ♗e5 20.♗xc6 ♗xc6 21.♕xe5 ♕xe5 22.♖xe5+ ♔d7=

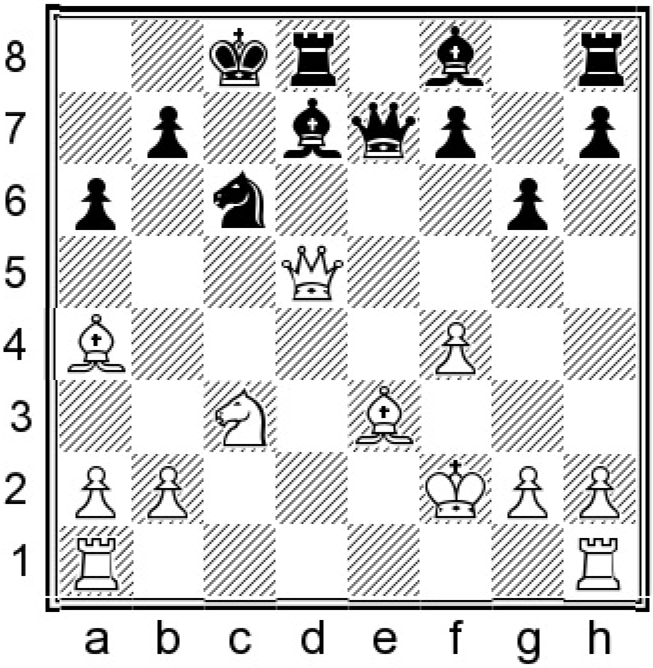
13...♘xc6 14.♕xd5

14.♗e3 ♗g7 15.♕xd5 O-O 16.O-O-O ♗xc3 17.bxc3 ♕f6∓

14...♕e7+ 15.♔f2

15.♕e4 ♕xe4+ 16.♘xe4 O-O-O 17.♔f2 f5 18.♘g5 ♗c5+ 19.♗e3 ♗xe3+ 20.♔xe3 ♖he8+ 21.♔f2 ♘b4∓

15...O-O-O 16.♗e3



16...♗e6

16...♗f5! 17.♕f3 ♘d4 18.♘d5 (18.♗xd4?! ♖xd4 19.♖ad1 ♕c5∓) 18...♕h4+ 19.g3 ♘xf3 20.gxh4 ♖xd5 21.♔xf3 h5∓

17.♕e4 f5 18.♕c2 ♘b4 19.♘d5+ ♘xc2 20.♘xe7+ ♗xe7 21.♗xc2 ♗f6 22.♖ac1! ♔b8=

22...♗xb2? 23.♗xf5+ ♔d7 24.♗xe6+ ♔xe6 25.♖c7 b5 26.♖e1±

23.b3 ♖c8 24.♗d3 ♖xc1 25.♖xc1 ♖c8 26.♖xc8+ ♔xc8 27.♗b6 ♔d7 28.♔e3 ♗d5 29.g3 ♔c6 30.♗d4 ♗e7 31.♗f1 1/2-1/2

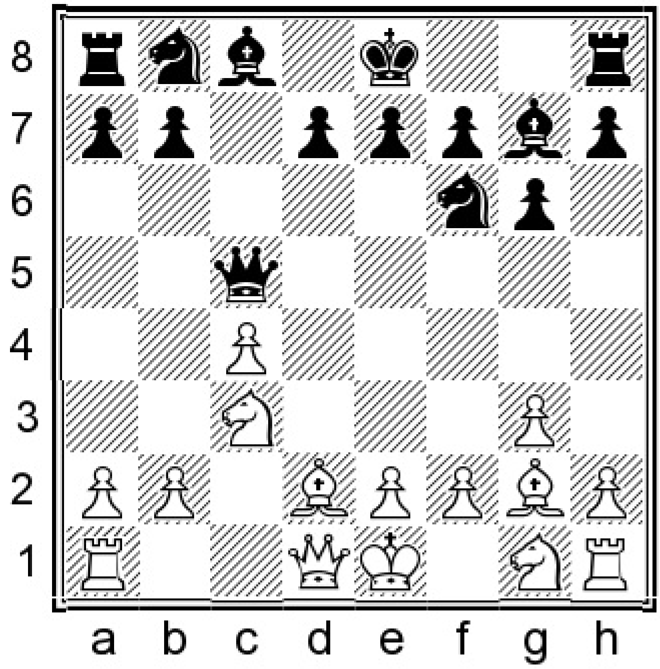
187. * E61
Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2762) - Carlsen, Magnus (2855)
chess24.com (Int.-m/1-rapid) 150/187, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.g3 c5 5.dxc5 ♕a5 6.♗g2 ♕xc5

6...O-O - 139/(192)

6...♘c6 7.♗d2 ♕xc5 8.♕a4N (8.♖c1) 8...O-O 9.♖c1 ♘e5 10.♕b5 (10.b3 d6 11.♗e3 ♕c7 12.♘h3 ♗d7 13.♕a3 ♗c6=) 10...♕xb5 11.♘xb5 a6 12.♘a3 d5! 13.cxd5 ♗f5 14.♘c4? (14.♗f4 ♘ed7 15.d6 e5 16.♗d2=) 14...♘xc4 15.♖xc4 ♖ac8 16.♖b4 ♖c2 17.♘f3 ♘xd5 18.♖xb7 ♗e4∓ Bazeev,G (2398)-Fedorov,A (2541) Saint Petersburg 150/(187) 2021

7.♗d2



7.♕a4 ♘g4 (7...O-O 8.♗e3 ♕c7 9.♘h3 d6 10.♘f4 ♗d7 11.♘fd5 ♘xd5 12.♘xd5 ♕d8 13.♕a3 ♘c6 14.O-O⩲) 8.♘h3 ♗xc3+ 9.bxc3 ♘c6 10.O-O ♘ge5 11.♘f4 d6 12.♘d5 ♖b8 13.♖b1 ♗d7 14.♗h6!?∞ (14.♘c7+? ♔d8 15.♘d5 ♘xc4!⩱ (15...♕xc4 16.♕d1=∞) 16.♕c2 ♘6e5)

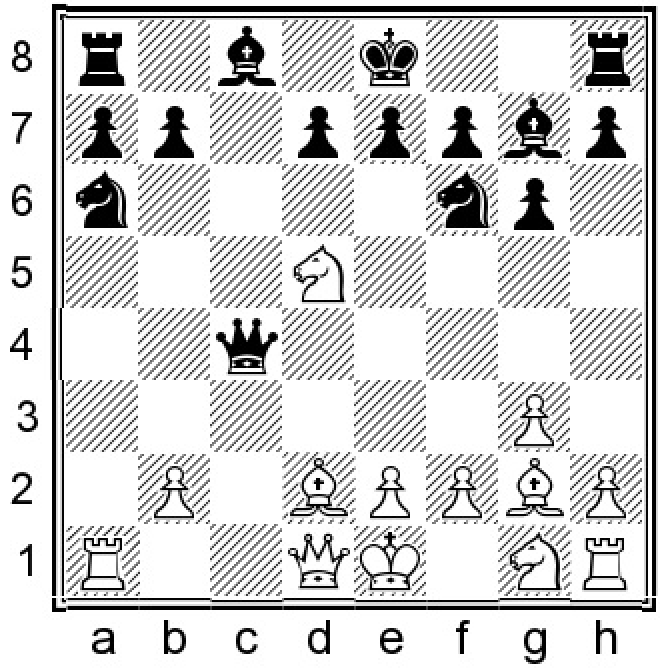
7...♕xc4!?N

7...O-O

8.♖c1 ♘a6 9.♘d5 ♕xa2??

9...♕b5 10.♗c3 d6 11.a4 ♕d7 12.♗xf6 ♗xf6 13.♘xf6+ exf6 14.h4 h5 15.♘h3 ♘c5 16.♘f4 a5 17.♕d4 ♕d8 18.♘d5 ♔f8!⩲

10.♖a1 ♕c4



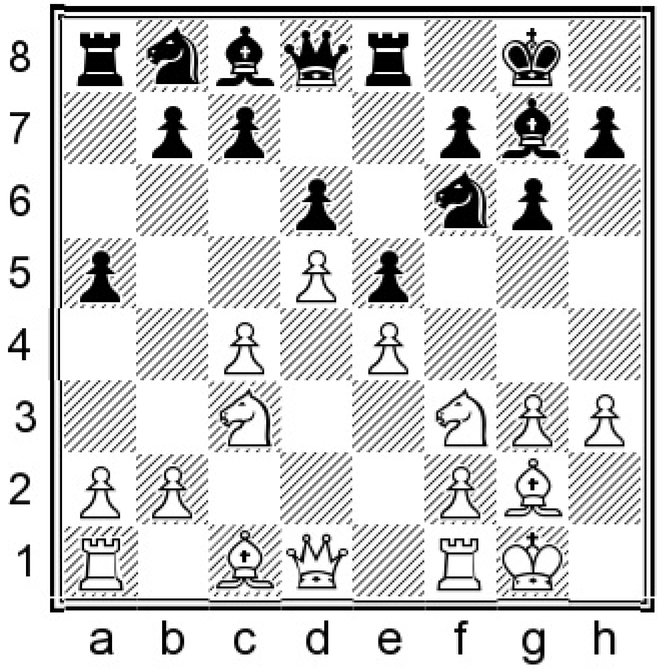
11.♖a4! ♕c5 12.♘xf6+ ♗xf6 13.♖xa6 bxa6 14.♗xa8 ♗xb2+- 15.♘f3 O-O 16.O-O d6 17.♗h6 ♖d8 18.♗e3 ♕b4 19.♗d5 e6 20.♕c2 ♕c3 21.♕xc3 ♗xc3 22.♖c1 ♗f6 23.♗c6 a5 24.♗b5 ♗d7 25.♗xd7 ♖xd7 26.♖c6 d5 27.♗h6 ♖d8 28.♖a6 ♗g7 29.♗xg7 ♔xg7 30.♖xa7 ♔f6 31.♖xa5 ♖d7 32.e3 h5 33.♖a8 ♖b7 34.♔g2 ♖c7 35.h3 ♖b7 36.g4 hxg4 37.hxg4 ♖c7 38.g5+ ♔f5 39.♖a4 e5 40.♖a6 ♖d7 41.♔g3 ♔e4 42.♖a8 ♖e7 43.♖d8 ♖e6 44.♖d7 f5 45.gxf6 1-0

188. * E63
Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar (2762) - Carlsen, Magnus (2855)
Struga 150/188, 2021

1.d4 g6 2.c4 ♗g7 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♘c3 d6 5.g3 O-O 6.♗g2 ♘c6 7.O-O e5 8.h3!? ♖e8 9.d5 ♘b8

9...♘e7 - 46/779

10.e4 a5



11.♗e3N ±

11.♗g5; 11.♘e1

11...♘a6 12.a3 - 150/188

12.♘e1N - 150/(188) 12...♘c5 (12...♘d7 13.a3 f5∞) 13.♔h2 ♗d7 14.b3 c6 15.a3 cxd5 16.cxd5 a4 17.♗xc5 dxc5 18.♘xa4 ♗f8? (18...♗xa4 19.bxa4 ♕d7 20.♖b1 ♕xa4 21.♕xa4 ♖xa4 22.♘d3 ♘xe4 23.♗xe4 ♖xe4 24.♘xc5 ♖d4=) 19.♘b2± Kobo,O (2490)-Yaniv,Y (2345) Ramat Gan (rapid) 150/(188) 2021

12...♘c5 13.♘d2 a4

13...♘fd7 14.b4±; 13...♗d7 14.b4 ♘a6 15.♕b3±

14.♗xc5 dxc5 15.♘xa4 ♕e7 16.b3 ♗d7 17.♘b2 ♖a6?! 18.♘d3 ♖ea8 19.♕c1

19.a4!? Δ Rc1, f4

19...♘e8 20.♕b2

20.♖a2!? Δ f4

20...b6 21.b4 ♘d6 22.bxc5 bxc5 23.♘xc5 ♘xc4 24.♕b4

24.♘xc4 ♕xc5 25.♖fc1±

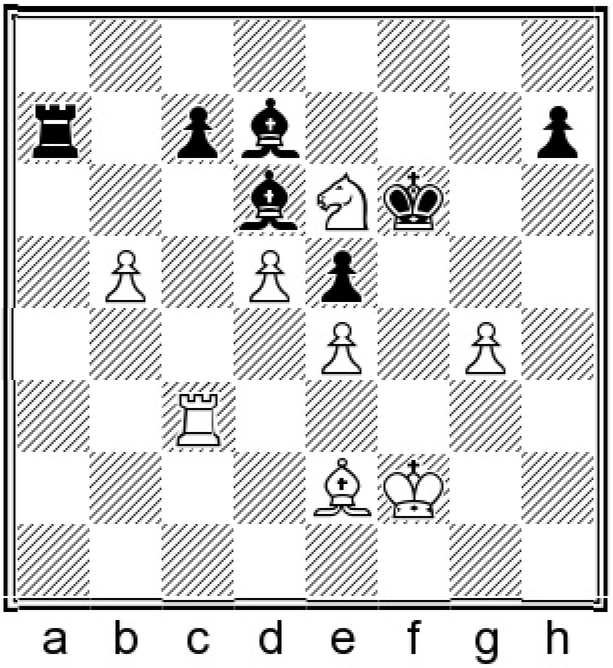
24...♘xd2

RR24...♖xa3 25.♖xa3 ♘xa3 26.♖a1 ♗f8 27.♕b7 ♖c8 28.♘xd7 ♕xd7 29.♗f1±

25.♘xa6 ♕xb4 26.axb4 ♘xf1 27.♗xf1 ♗f8 28.♖c1 ♗d6 29.b5 ♖a7± 30.h4 ♔g7 31.♗d3 f5 32.f3 fxe4 33.fxe4 g5!? 34.hxg5 ♔g6 35.♔f2 ♔xg5 36.♗e2 ♗e8 37.♔e3 ♖b7 38.♘c5 ♖a7 39.♘a6 ♖b7 40.♖c3

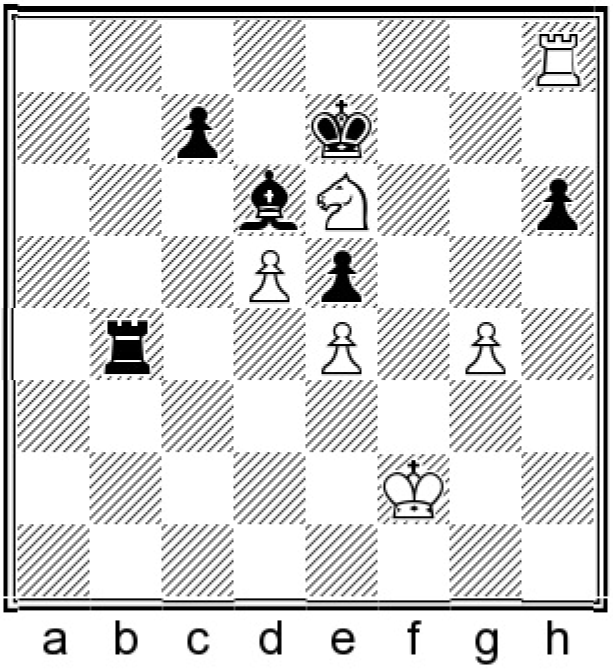
♖a7 41.♔f2 ♖b7 42.♘c5 ♖a7 43.♘e6+ ♔f6 44.g4 ♗g6?

RR44...♗d7


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

45.g5+ (45.♖f3+ ♔e7 (45...♔g6?! 46.♘f8+ ♗xf8 47.♖xf8 ♖a2 48.♖b8±) 46.g5 ♖a2 47.♖h3 ♗xb5 48.♖xh7+ ♔e8 49.g6 ♗xe2 50.g7 ♗h5+ 51.♔g3 ♖a3+ 52.♔h4 ♗f7=) 45...♔g6 46.♖c2 ♗xe6 47.dxe6 ♔xg5 48.♗c4±

45.♖c6 ♔e7 46.♖a6 ♖b7 47.♔e3 ♗e8 48.♖a8 h6 49.♔f3 ♗xb5 50.♗xb5 ♖xb5 51.♖h8 ♖b3+ 52.♔f2 ♖b4


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a b c d e f g h

53.♖xh6?

53.♖h7+! ♔e8 54.♖xh6 ♖xe4 55.g5+-

53...♖xe4 54.g5 ♖g4 55.♔f3 ♖g1 56.♖h7+ ♔e8 57.♔e4 ♖e1+ 58.♔f5 ♖f1+ 59.♔g6 e4= 60.♘xc7+

60.♖h4 e3 61.♖e4 ♔d7 62.♖xe3 ♖d1=

60...♗xc7 61.♖xc7 e3 62.♖c4 ♔d7 63.♖e4 ♖e1 64.♖e6 e2 65.♔g7 ♖g1 66.♖xe2 ♖xg5+ 67.♔f6 ♖xd5 68.♖e5 ♖xe5 69.♔xe5 1/2-1/2

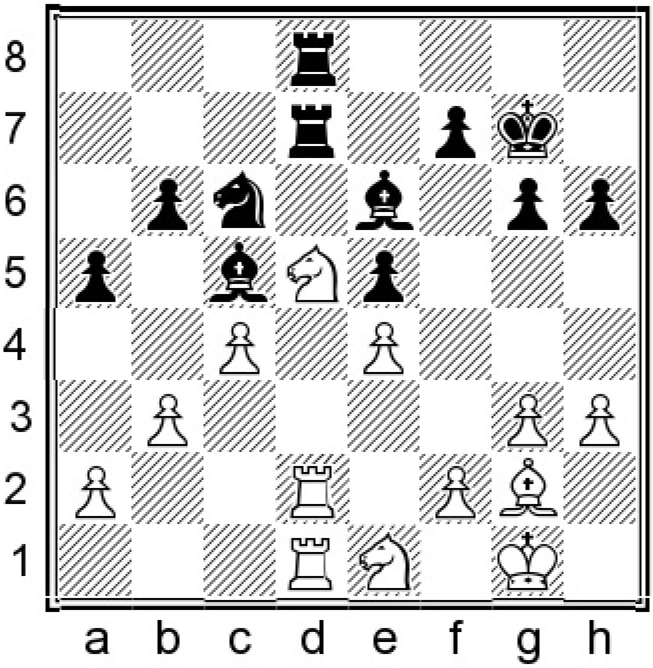
189. * E63
Nikolaidis, Ioannis (2540) - Halkias, Stelios (2556)
Greece 150/189, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 ♗g7 4.♗g2 O-O 5.♘c3 d6 6.♘f3 ♘c6 7.O-O e5 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.♗g5 h6 10.♕xd8 ♖xd8 11.♗xf6 ♗xf6 12.♘d5 ♔g7 13.♘xc7 ♖b8 14.e4 ♗e7 15.♘d5 ♗c5 16.h3

16.♘e1N ♘b4! 17.a3 ♘xd5 18.exd5 (18.cxd5 ♗g4 19.♘c2 ♖bc8 20.♖fc1 a5 21.b4 axb4 22.axb4 ♗b6=∞) 18...♗f5 (18...a5 19.♘d3 ♗d4 20.♖ae1 (20.♖fe1 ♗f5= 21.♗e4 ♗d7 22.♗g2 ♗f5=) 20...f6 21.b4 ♗f5 22.♖d1 b6=∞) 19.b4 ♗d4 20.♖a2 a5 21.♘f3 ♗c3 22.bxa5 ♖bc8 (22...♖dc8! 23.♖c1 (23.♘d2 ♗xd2 24.♖xd2 ♖xc4=) 23...♖xc4 24.a6 bxa6 25.♗f1 (25.♘xe5? ♗xe5 26.♖xc4 ♖b1+ 27.♗f1 ♗h3-+) 25...♖c5 26.♘d2 ♖bc8 27.♗xa6 ♗xd2 28.♖xc5 ♖xc5 29.♖xd2 ♖a5=) 23.♖c1 ♖xc4 24.♘h4 (24.a6 bxa6 25.♘xe5 ♖c7 26.♘c6 ♗f6 27.♗f3±) 24...♗d3 25.♗f1 ♖xd5 26.♗xd3 ♖xd3= 27.♖ac2 ♖c6 28.a6 ♗d4 29.axb7 ♖b6 30.♖c7 ♖db3 31.♖1c2 1/2 (31) Martirosyan,H (2624)-Smirin,I (2616) Terme Catez 150/(189) 2021

16.a3 - 150/189

16...♗e6 17.♖fd1 a5 18.b3 ♖d7 19.♖d2 ♖bd8 20.♖ad1 b6 21.♘e1N



21.♘c3 - 146/(190)

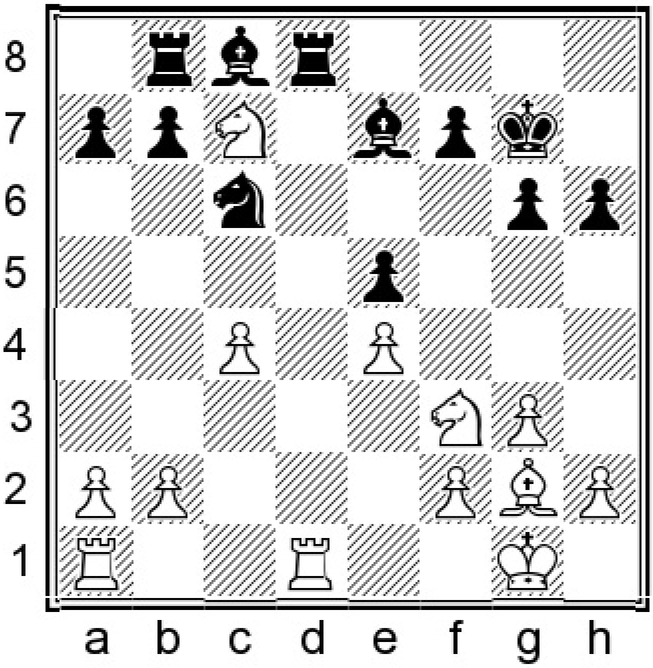
21...♗b4! 22.♖d3

22.♖e2 ♘d4 23.♖e3 ♗xd5 24.exd5 (24.cxd5 ♖c7 25.♘f3 ♘xf3+ 26.♗xf3 ♔f8 27.♔f1 ♖c2 28.♖e2 ♖c3=) 24...♖e7 25.♘d3 ♗d6⯹

22...♗c5 23.♘c2 ♘b4 24.♘dxb4 axb4 25.♖xd7 ♖xd7 26.♖xd7 ♗xd7= 27.♘e1 f5 28.♘d3 ♗d6 29.f3 ♔f6 30.♔h2 h5 31.h4 1/2-1/2

190. * E63
Svane, Rasmus (2594) - Demchenko, Anton (2654)
Deutschland 150/190, 2021

1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.d4 ♗g7 4.g3 O-O 5.♗g2 d6 6.♘c3 ♘c6 7.O-O e5 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.♗g5 h6 10.♕xd8 ♖xd8 11.♗xf6 ♗xf6 12.♘d5 ♔g7 13.♘xc7 ♖b8 14.e4 ♗e7 15.♖fd1



15...♗e6! 16.♘xe6+N

16.♘d5

16...fxe6 17.♔f1N

17.♘e1 - 150/(190) 17...g5 (17...a5 18.♗h3 ♔f6 19.♖ac1 ♗b4 20.♘d3 b6 21.♗g4 ♗c5 22.♘xc5 bxc5⯹) 18.♗h3 ♔f6 19.♗g4 ♗c5⯹ 20.♖xd8 ♖xd8 21.♖d1 ♗d4 22.♘d3 a5 23.a3 b6 24.♔g2 a4 25.♖c1 ♗e3 (25...♘a5 26.c5 bxc5 27.♘xc5 ♗xb2 28.♖c2 ♗xa3 29.♘xa4 ♖d4 30.♘c5 ♗xc5 31.♖xc5 ♖xe4 32.♖xa5 ♖xg4=) 26.♖d1 ♗d4 27.♗e2 ♖c8 28.♖c1 ♘a5= 29.♗d1 ♖xc4 30.♖xc4 ♘xc4 31.♗xa4 ♘xb2 32.♗c2 ♘xd3 1/2 (32) Harikrishna,P (2719)-Lagarde,M (2640) Polska 150/(190) 2021

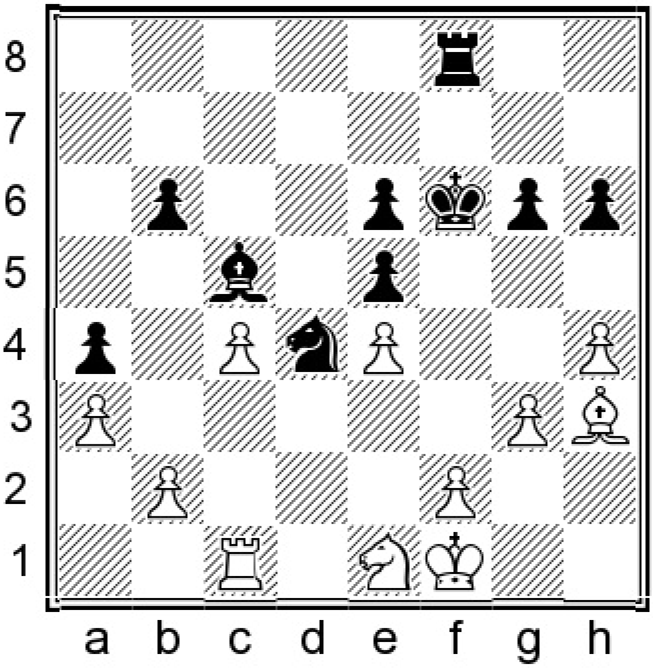
17...♗c5 18.h4 a5 19.♖ac1 b6 20.♔e2 a4 21.♖xd8 ♖xd8 22.a3

22.♘e1 a3 23.bxa3 ♗xa3 24.♖b1 ♗c5 25.♘d3 ♖a8 26.♘xc5 ♖xa2+ 27.♔f1 bxc5 28.♖b7+ ♔f6 29.♗h3 ♘d4 30.♖c7 ♖a1+ 31.♔g2 ♖e1 32.♖xc5 ♖xe4=

22...♖f8 23.♗h3 ♔f6 24.♘e1?!

24.♖c2 ♔e7 25.♖d2=

24...♘d4+ 25.♔f1



25...♘b3! 26.♖c3

26.♖d1 ♔e7 27.♘d3 ♗d4∓

26...♔e7?!

26...♖d8 27.♖d3 ♗d4 28.♘f3 ♘c5 (28...♔e7 29.♘xd4 exd4∓) 29.♖d2 ♘xe4 30.♖e2 ♘c5∓

27.f3

27.♘d3 ♗d4 28.♖c2 ♖c8∓

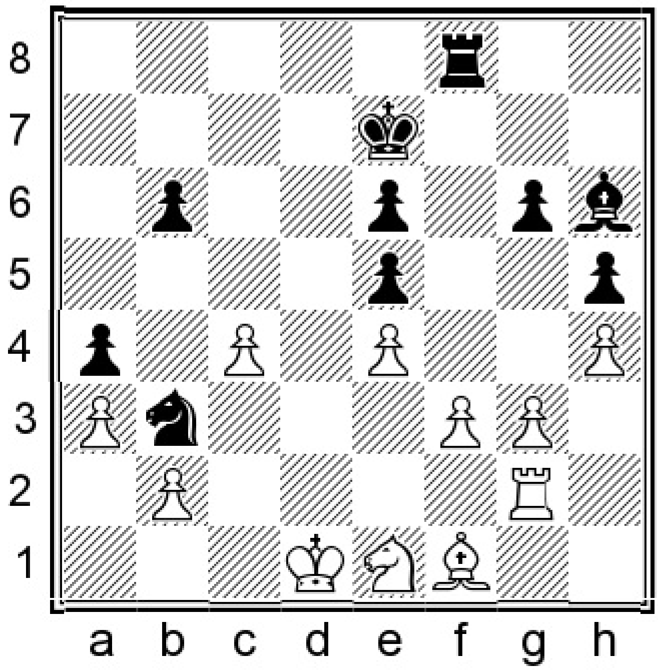
27...h5

27...♗d4! 28.♖c2 ♘a1 29.♖d2 ♖c8∓

28.♔e2 ♗d4 29.♖c2 ♗g1 30.♖c3 ♗c5 31.♗f1 ♗d4 32.♖c2 ♗g1∓ 33.♔d1 ♗e3?!

33...♖d8+ 34.♘d3 ♘d4 35.♖c3 ♘xf3∓

34.♖g2 ♗h6



35.g4

35.♘d3! ♖xf3 36.♗e2 ♖f8 37.♘xe5 ♖d8+ 38.♔e1 ♔f6 39.♘c6 ♖d2 40.e5+ ♔g7 41.g4 hxg4 42.♖xg4∞

35...hxg4 36.♖xg4 ♔f6 37.♘d3

37.♖g2 ♖h8 38.♘d3 ♗e3∓

37...♘d2! 38.♗e2 ♘xc4 39.♔e1 ♖c8 40.♗d1 ♖d8 41.♔e2 b5 42.b3 ♘xa3⩱ 43.f4 ♘b1 44.♗c2 ♘c3+ 45.♔d2 ♘xe4+ 46.♔e3 axb3 47.♗b1 ♘c3 48.♘xe5 ♖g8 49.♗d3 ♘d5+ 50.♔e4 ♗xf4 51.♘d7+ ♔e7 52.♘c5 ♗d6 53.♔d4 ♘f6 0-1

191. * E63**
Jianu, Vlad Cristian (2522) - Onischuk, Alexander (2622)
Terme Catez 150/191, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.g3 ♗g7 4.♗g2 O-O 5.O-O d6 6.c4 ♘c6 7.♘c3 e5 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.♗g5 h6 10.♕xd8 ♖xd8 11.♗xf6 ♗xf6 12.♘d5 ♔g7 13.♘xc7 ♖b8 14.e4 ♗e6N

14...♗g4N - 150/(191) 15.♘d5 b5 - 150/(191) (15...♗xf3N 16.♗xf3 ♗e7 17.♖ab1 a5 18.♔g2 ♗c5 19.♗d1 ♘b4 20.a3 ♘xd5 21.cxd5 f5 22.♗c2± Rahman,Z (2424)-Bersamina,P (2461) chess.com (ol-rapid) 150/(191) 2021) 16.cxb5N (16.c5 - 150/(191) 16...a5 17.♖ac1 ♖bc8 18.b3 ♘b4 19.♘xb4 axb4 20.h3 ♗xf3 21.♗xf3 ♗g5 22.♖c2 ♖d2 23.♖fc1 ♖c6 24.♔f1 ♖xc2 25.♖xc2 ♗e7 26.♗e2 ♖xc5 27.♖xc5 ♗xc5 28.♗xb5 f5 29.♗c6 f4= Galiano Martinez,A (2392)-Bratovic,B (2409) corr 150/(191) 2021) 16...♖xb5 17.b3 ♗xf3 (17...♘d4 18.♘xd4 exd4 19.♘xf6 ♔xf6 20.f3 ♗e6 21.♖f2 a5⩱) 18.♗xf3 ♘d4 19.♔g2 ♖c5 20.♖fc1 ♖dc8 21.♖xc5 ♖xc5 22.♗d1± Oparin,G (2655)-Mamedov,R (2654) lichess.org (Int.-m/2-blitz) 150/(191) 2021

14...♗e7 - 146/(190)

15.♖ac1

15.♘d5 b5! 16.♘d2 (16.cxb5 ♖xb5 17.♘c7 ♖xb2 18.♘xe6+ fxe6 19.♖fc1 ♖d6=; 16.b3 bxc4 17.bxc4 ♖b2⯹) 16...bxc4 (16...a5 17.cxb5 ♖xb5 18.b3 ♘d4⯹) 17.♘xc4 ♘b4 18.♖fd1 ♖bc8 19.♘ce3 a5⯹; 15.c5 ♗g4! 16.♘d5 a5 17.a3 a4⯹; 15.♘xe6+ fxe6 16.c5 a5 17.♖fc1 ♘d4 18.♘xd4 exd4⯹

15...♗e7 16.a3

16.♘d5 ♗c5 17.♘e1 a5 18.♘d3 b6 19.♔h1 (19.♘xc5 bxc5 20.♖c2 (20.b3 a4 21.bxa4 ♘d4 22.♖b1 ♖a8⯹) 20...♘d4 21.♖d2 a4⯹) 19...f6 (19...♗d6 20.f4 ♘b4! 21.♘3xb4 axb4 22.fxe5 ♗c5 23.b3 ♖a8 24.♖c2 ♖a3⯹) 20.f4 ♘b4 21.♘3xb4⯹

16...a5⯹ 17.♘d5 ♗c5 18.b4

18.♖fd1 a4 19.h3 ♘d4 20.♘xd4 ♗xd4⯹

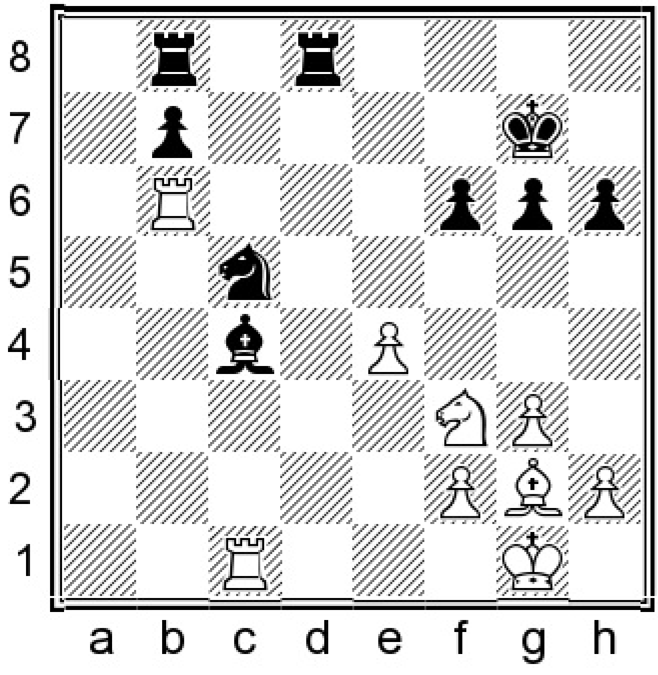
18...axb4 19.axb4 ♗xb4

19...♘xb4 20.♘xe5 ♖a8 21.♖b1 ♖a4⯹

20.♘xb4 ♘xb4 21.♘xe5 f6 22.♖b1

22.♘f3 ♖bc8 23.♖b1 ♖xc4 24.♖fe1 ♖d7 25.♗f1 ♖c3 26.♖xb4 ♖xf3=

22...♘a6 23.♖b6 ♘c5 24.♘f3 ♗xc4 25.♖c1



25...♘a4! 26.♖b4 b5 27.♗f1 ♘b6= 28.♖cb1 g5 29.♗xc4 ♘xc4 30.♖xb5 ♖xb5 31.♖xb5 ♖e8 32.e5 ♘xe5 33.♘xe5 ♖xe5 34.♖b7+ 1/2-1/2

192. * E71
Parligras, Mircea Emilian (2579) - Nevednichy, Vladislav (2514)
Romania 150/192, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 O-O 6.♗e3 ♘a6 7.g4 e5 8.d5 c6 9.♘ge2 cxd5 10.cxd5 h5 11.f3!

11.g5!? ♘d7 12.h4 f6 13.♘g3 fxg5 14.hxg5 ♖f4! 15.♗e2 ♕xg5 16.♕d2 ♘ac5∞

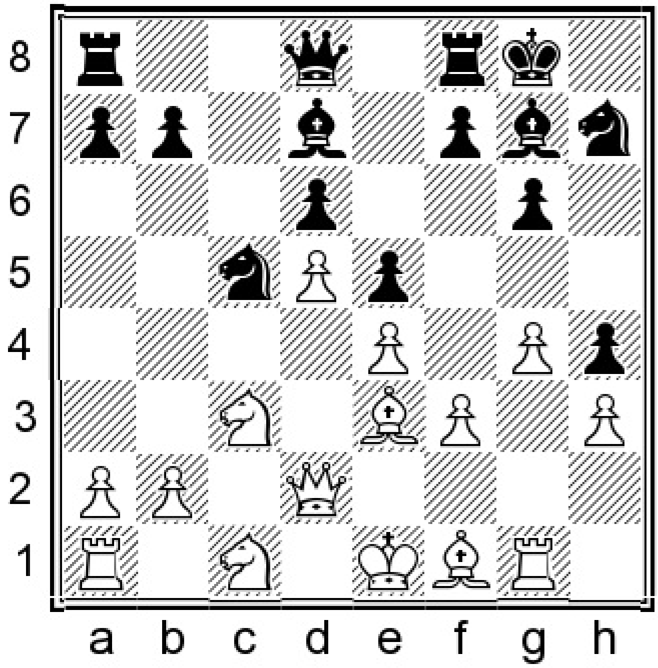
11...♘h7

11...♗d7 - 145/(192)

12.♕d2

12.gxh5! ♕h4+ (12...gxh5? 13.♘g3+-) 13.♗f2 ♕xh5 14.♘g3! ♕g5 15.h4 ♕f4 16.♗e2±

12...h4 13.♖g1 ♗d7 14.♘c1 ♘c5



15.b4?!N

15.♘d3N - 150/(192) 15...♘xd3+ (15...♘a4!?) 16.♗xd3 ♖c8 17.O-O-O b5 18.♔b1± Potapova,M (2260)-Demchenko,A (2600) Novorossiysk (blitz) 150/(192) 2021

15.a4 a5 16.♗xc5 dxc5 17.♗c4 ♕g5 18.♕f2 b6 19.♘d3 ♖fe8±

15...♘a4 16.♘xa4 ♗xa4 17.b5 a6 18.b6 ♖c8 19.♘b3 ♗xb3 20.axb3 ♗f6?

20...♘f6 21.♗c4 ♘d7 22.♕b4 ♗f6 23.g5 ♗e7 24.♖g4 ♔g7 25.♔e2 f6 26.♖xh4 fxg5 27.♖g4 ♖f4⇄

21.g5 ♗e7 22.♖g4

22.♗c4±

22...♔g7 23.♗c4 f5 24.gxf6+

24.exf5 ♖xf5 25.♔e2 ♖xg5! 26.♖ag1 (26.♗xg5 ♗xg5 27.♕b4 ♕f6 28.♖ag1 e4! 29.f4 ♗xf4 30.♖xg6+

♕xg6 31.♖xg6+ ♔xg6∞) 26...♖xg4 27.♖xg4 ♘f6 28.♖xh4 ♘h5 29.♖g4 ♘f6 30.♖g1 ♕h8⇄

24...♘xf6 25.♖xh4 ♘h5 26.♖g4 ♖xf3 27.O-O-O ♘f4 28.♖dg1 ♗f6?

RR28...♕e8 29.♗xf4 ♖xf4 30.♖xf4 exf4 31.♕xf4 ♗d8! 32.♕xd6 ♕xe4 33.♕d7+ ♗e7 34.d6 ♖xc4+ 35.bxc4 ♕e3+ 36.♔b2 ♕d2+ 37.♔b3 ♕d3+=

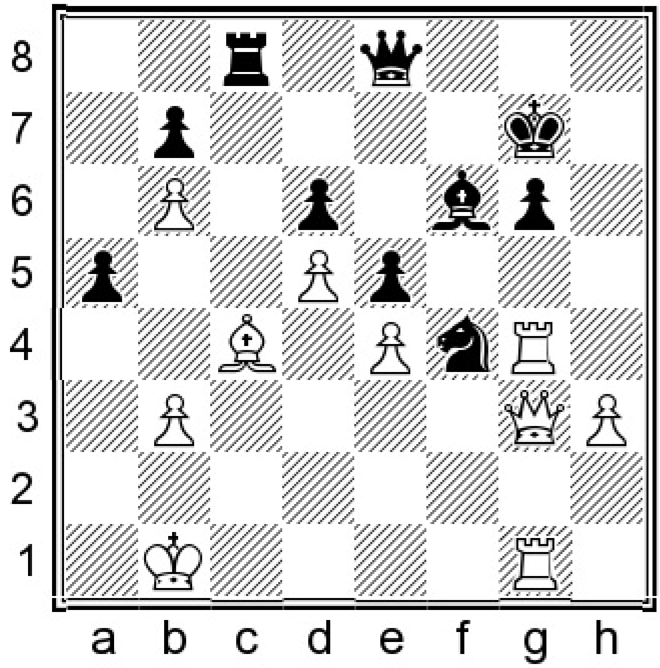
29.♔b1?

29.♗xf4 ♖xf4 30.♖xg6++-

29...♖xe3?

29...♕e8 30.♖1g3 ♖xg3 31.♖xg3 ♕h8∞

30.♕xe3 a5 31.♕g3+- ♕e8



32.♗b5! ♕f7 33.♗d7 ♖h8 34.♗f5 ♖h6 35.h4 ♔h7 36.♖xg6 ♘xg6 37.h5 ♕f8 38.♗xg6+ 1-0

193. * E73
Bacrot, Etienne (2658) - Jones, Gawain C B (2684)
Malmoe 150/193, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.h4 ♗g7 4.♘c3 d6 5.e4 c5 6.d5 O-O 7.♗e2 e6 8.h5 exd5 9.h6 ♗h8 10.exd5 ♖e8 11.♗g5 ♕b6 12.b3 - 150/193

12.♕d2N ♘e4 13.♘xe4 ♖xe4 14.♔f1 ♘d7 15.♘f3 ♘e5 16.♘xe5 ♖xe5 17.♖e1 ♗d7 18.g3 ♖ae8 19.♔g2 ♕b4 20.♕xb4 cxb4 21.♗e3 Urazayev,A (2453)-Sukovic,A (2311) chess.com (Int. -blitz) 150/(193) 2021 (21.♗e3 ♖xe3! 22.fxe3 ♗xb2∓)

12...♘e4

12...♗f5 - 149/191

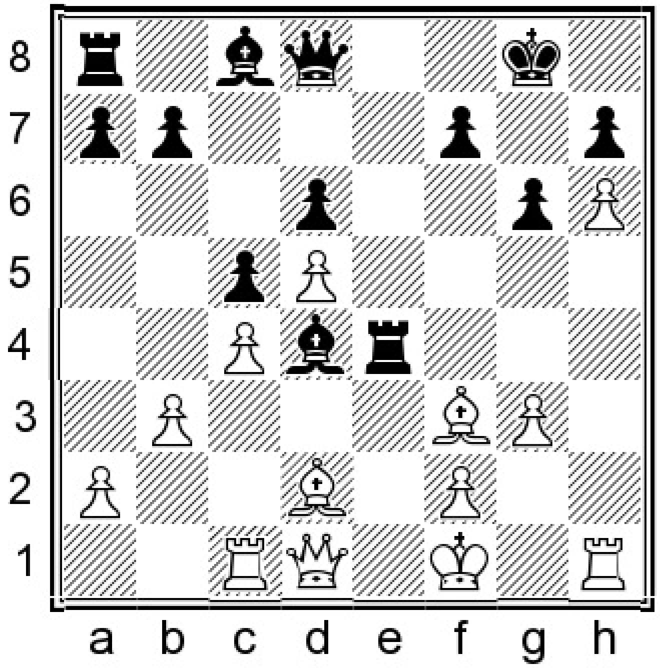
13.♘xe4 ♖xe4 14.♔f1 ♖e8 15.♖c1

15.♖h4 a5 (15...♗xa1 16.♕xa1 f6 (16...♖e5 17.f4+-) 17.♕xf6 ♕c7 18.♖f4 ♘a6 19.♗d3+-) 16.a4 (16.♘f3 a4 17.♖b1 ♘d7∞) 16...♘d7 17.g3 ♘e5 18.♖a2 (18.f4? f6 19.fxe5 fxg5-+) 18...f5∞

15...♘d7N

15...a5 16.a4 ♘a6 (16...♘d7 17.g3 ♘f6 18.♗d3±) 17.♖h4 (17.♗f3 ♘b4 18.♕d2 ♗d7∞) 17...♘b4 18.♕d2 f6 19.♗f4 ♕d8∞

16.♗d2 ♕d8 17.♘f3 ♘f6 18.♘g5 ♘e4 19.♘xe4 ♖xe4 20.g3 ♗d4= 21.♗f3



21...♕f6! 22.♗g5

22.♔g2 ♖e8 23.b4 b6 24.bxc5 bxc5 25.♖b1 ♗f5 26.♖b7 ♖eb8=

22...♕xg5

22...♕f5 23.♔g2 f6 24.♗d2 g5 25.♕f1 ♖e5 26.g4 ♕g6∞

23.♗xe4 ♗g4! 24.f4

24.♕c2 f5 25.f4 ♕f6 26.♗d3 ♖e8 27.♖e1 (27.♔g2 g5∓) 27...♖xe1+ 28.♔xe1 ♕e7+ 29.♗e2 ♕e3 30.♔d1 ♗f3! 31.♖f1 ♗g2∓

24...♕e7 25.♕d3 ♖e8 26.♗f3 ♕e3

26...♗e3 27.♕c3 ♗d4 28.♕d3=; 26...♗f5 27.♕d2 ♗e3 28.♕b2 ♗d4=

27.♕xe3 ♗xe3 28.♗xg4 ♗xc1 29.♖h2 f5 30.♖e2 ♖xe2 31.♗xe2= g5 32.fxg5 ♗xg5 33.♗d3 f4 34.gxf4 ♗xf4 35.♔f2 ♗xh6 36.♔f3 ♔g7 37.♗f5 ♗c1 38.♗c8 b6 39.a4 ♔f6 40.♔e4 a5 1/2-1/2

E75-E99

194. * !N E90
Predke, Alexandr (2666) - Yakubboev, Nodirbek (2621)
Riga 150/194, 2021

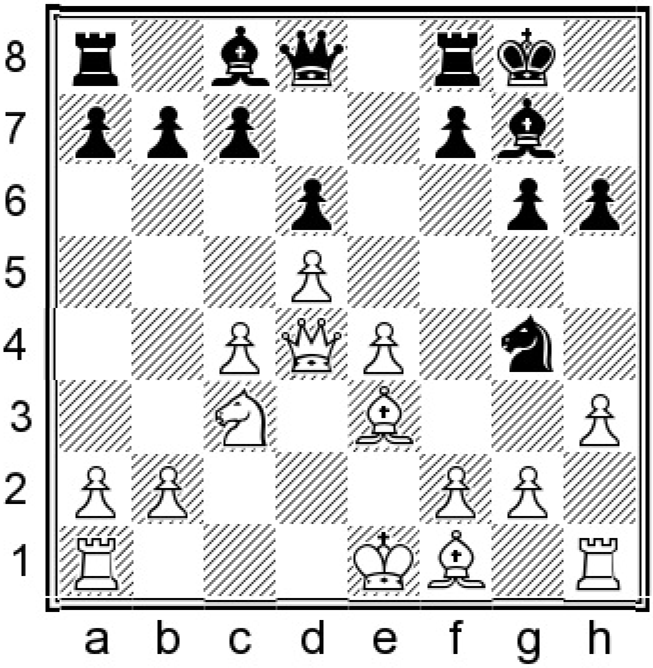
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 O-O 6.♗g5 ♘c6 7.♘f3 h6 8.♗e3 e5 9.d5 ♘d4

9...♘e7 - 57/562

10.♘xd4 exd4 11.♕xd4

11.♗xd4 ♘xe4! 12.♗xg7 ♖e8 13.♗e2 ♔xg7 14.♕d4+ ♕f6 15.♕xf6+ ♔xf6 16.♘xe4+ ♖xe4 17.f3N (17.♔d2 ♗d7=) 17...♖e7 18.♔f2 a5 19.h4 a4 20.a3 ♖a6= Belous,V (2520) -Van Foreest,J (2701) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 150/(194) 2021

11...♘g4



12.hxg4!!N

12.♕d2 ♘xe3 13.♕xe3 f5=∞

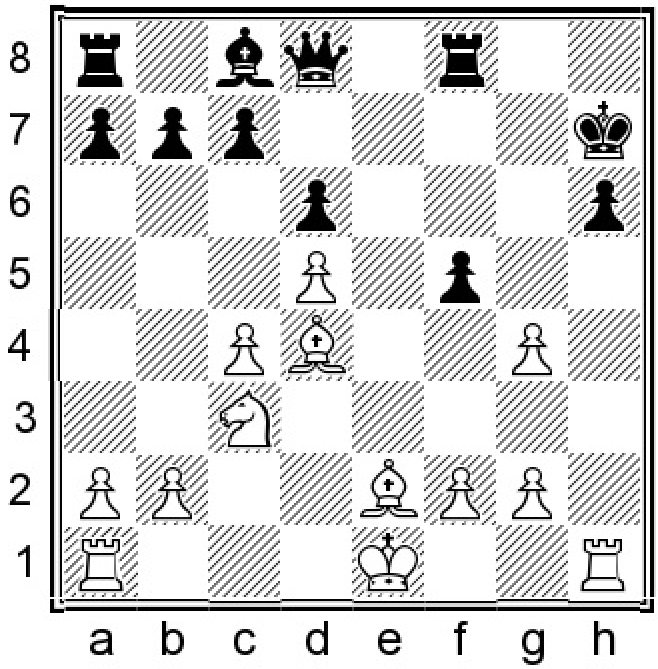
12...♗xd4 13.♗xd4 ♔h7

13...♗xg4 14.♖xh6 f5 15.♖xg6+ ♔h7 16.♖g7+ ♔h6 17.exf5 ♗xf5 18.O-O-O±; 13...f6 14.♖xh6 ♔f7 15.g5! ♖h8 16.♗xf6 ♕xf6 17.gxf6 ♖xh6 18.f4 ♔xf6 19.♔d2 ♖h4 20.♔e3±

14.♗e2 f5?!

14...f6 15.O-O-O g5 16.f4 gxf4 17.g5! fxg5 18.♖xh6+! ♔xh6 19.♖h1+ ♔g6 20.♗h5+ ♔h7 21.♗f7+ ♗h3 22.♖xh3#; 14...c5 15.dxc6 (15.♗e3 ♖h8 16.♔d2 ♔g7 17.♖h2 ♗d7∞) 15...bxc6 16.f4! g5 17.♖h5 c5 (17...gxf4 18.g5+-) 18.♗e3±

15.exf5 gxf5



16.♖h5! ♔g6 17.♔d2

17.g5 hxg5 (17...♖e8 18.♖xh6+ ♔xg5 19.♖h7 ♖e7 20.f4+! ♔g6 21.♖h8 ♖e8 22.♖xe8 ♕xe8 23.♔f2+-) 18.♔d2 g4 19.♖ah1+-

17...fxg4 18.♖ah1 ♗f5 19.♖xh6+

19.♗d3 ♗xd3 20.♖xh6+ ♔f7 21.♔xd3+-

19...♔f7 20.♖1h5 ♔e7 21.♘d1

21.♗d3 ♗xd3 22.♔xd3 ♔d7 23.♖h7+ ♔c8 24.♖h8+-

21...c5 22.♗c3 ♔d7 23.♘e3 ♗b1 24.♗xg4+

24.♔c1 ♗e4 25.♖e6 ♖e8 26.f3 gxf3 27.gxf3 ♗g6 28.♖xg6 ♖xe3 29.♖h7+ ♔c8 (29...♖e7 30.♖xe7+ ♕xe7 31.♖g7+-) 30.♗f6 ♕f8 31.♗d1+-

24...♔c7 25.f3

25.♔c1 ♗e4 (25...♗xa2 26.♗a5+ b6 27.♖h7+ ♔b8 28.♗c3 ♖xf2 29.♗e6+-) 26.f3 ♗d3 27.♔d2 ♗b1 28.♖h1 ♗xa2 29.♗a5+ b6 30.♖h7+ ♔b8 31.♖d7+-

25...♕e8 26.♖h1 ♗g6 27.♖e1

27.♗e6+-

27...♖g8 28.♗e6 ♕f8 29.♖eh1 ♖e8 30.♖1h4 ♖xe6 31.dxe6 ♕e8 32.♘d5+ ♔c6 33.♘f6 ♕e7 34.♖g4 1-0

195. E90
Parligras, Mircea Emilian (2591) - Saric, Ivan (2653)
Reykjavik 150/195, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 e5 6.d5 a5 7.♗e3 ♘a6 8.♘f3 O-O 9.g4 ♘d7 10.a3 ♘ac5 11.♖g1 a4 12.♘d2 ♗f6

12...c6 - 134/197

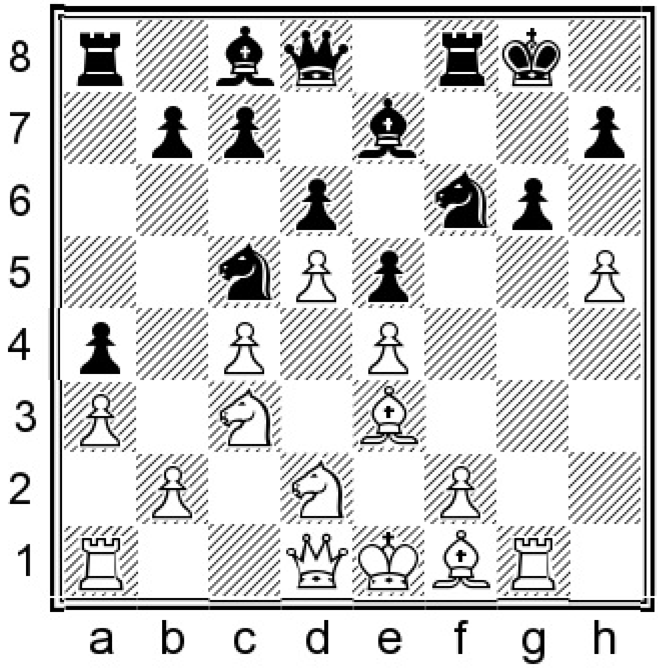
13.g5 ♗e7 14.h4

14.♕c2 f6 15.h4 fxg5 16.hxg5 ♖f4!∞

14...f6 15.gxf6 ♘xf6

15...♗xf6 16.h5 g5 17.h6±

16.h5



16...g5! 17.♖xg5+

17.♗xc5 dxc5 18.♖xg5+ ♔h8 19.♖g2 ♖g8 20.♕e2 ♗g4 21.f3 ♗d7 22.♖h2 ♖g5=∞

17...♔h8 18.♖g3N

18.♖g2

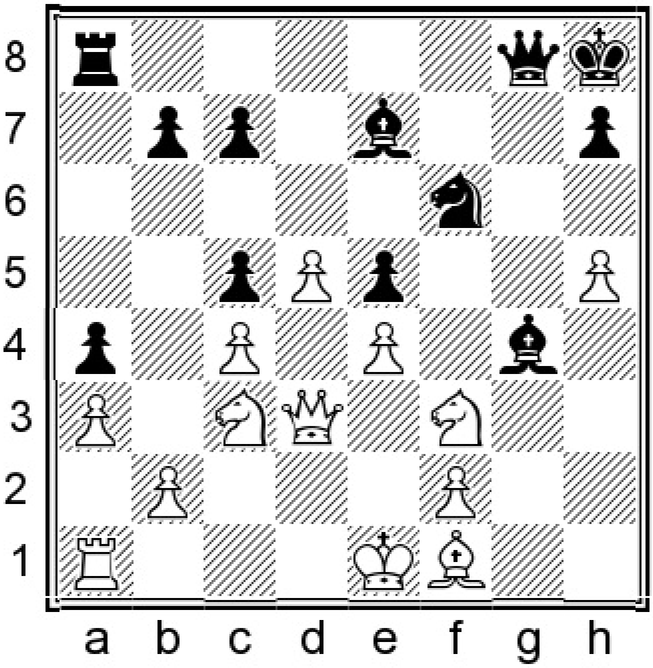
18...♖g8 19.♖xg8+

19.♕f3 ♖xg3 20.♕xg3 ♘xh5 21.♕f3 ♘f4! 22.O-O-O (22.♗xf4 exf4 23.♕xf4? ♗g5-+) 22...♕g8=∞

19...♕xg8 20.♗xc5 dxc5 21.♘f3?!

21.♘xa4?! ♗g4 (21...♘g4 22.♘f3 ♗d7 23.♘c3 ♕f7∓) 22.♗e2 (22.f3 ♗d7 23.♘c3 ♕g3+ 24.♔e2 ♘xh5-+) 22...♕g5 23.♘c3 ♖f8∓; 21.♕f3 ♗g4 22.♕h1 ♕g5∞

21...♗g4 22.♕d3?!

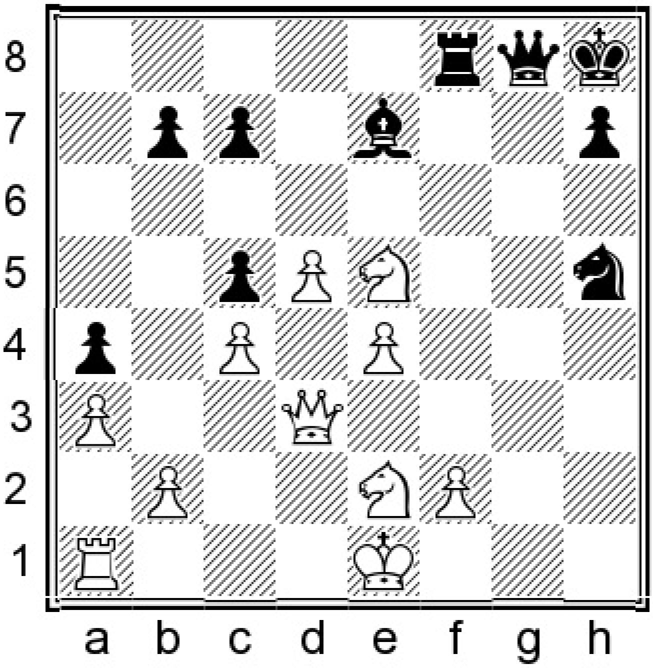


22.♗e2 ♖f8 (22...♗xh5 23.♔d2 ♕g2∓) 23.♘xe5 ♗xe2 24.♕xe2 ♕g1+ 25.♕f1 ♕h2∓

22...♖f8! 23.♗e2

23.♘h2 ♗d7 24.O-O-O ♕g5+ 25.♖d2 ♘xh5∓

23...♘xh5 24.♘xe5 ♗xe2 25.♘xe2



25.♕xe2 ♘f4 26.♕f1 ♗h4 27.O-O-O ♕g5-+

25...♕g2!-+ 26.♕e3 ♕h1+ 27.♔d2 ♕xa1 28.♘d3 ♕h1 29.f4 ♖g8 0-1

196. E94
Sargissian, Gabriel (2664) - Christiansen, Johan Sebastian (2582)
Terme Catez 150/196, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.c4 ♗g7 4.♘c3 O-O 5.e4 d6 6.♗e2 e5 7.O-O exd4 8.♘xd4 ♖e8 9.f3 c6 10.♔h1 d5 11.cxd5 cxd5 12.♗f4N

12.♗g5 - 55/616

12...♘c6 13.♘db5

13.♘xc6 bxc6 14.exd5 ♘h5! 15.♗d2 (15.♗c1 cxd5∓) 15...cxd5 16.♗b5 ♖e6∓

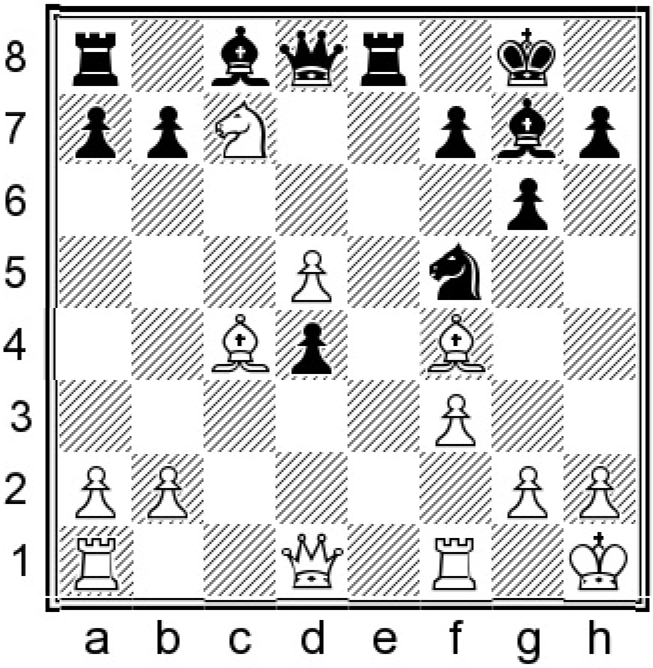
13...d4 14.♘d5

14.♘a4 ♘h5 15.♗c7 ♕e7 16.g4 ♘f6 17.♗d6 ♕d8 18.♗c7 ♕e7=

14...♘xd5 15.exd5 ♘e7 16.♗c4

16.d6 ♘d5 17.♗g3 h5 (17...♘e3 18.♕d2 ♖b8 (18...♘xf1 19.♗xf1 ♖b8 20.♘c7 ♖e5 21.♕xd4 ♖e1 22.♕xg7+ ♔xg7 23.♖xe1 ♗d7 24.♖e7 b5∞) 19.♖fe1 ♕f6 20.♘c7 ♖d8 21.♗b5 ♗d7∞) 18.♘c7 ♘xc7 19.dxc7 ♕g5 20.♗c4 h4 21.♗d6 h3 22.♗g3 ♖e7∞

16...♘f5! 17.♘c7



17.d6 g5 18.g4 (18.♗d2 ♘xd6 19.♗xg5 ♕b6 20.♘xd6 ♕xd6∓) 18...gxf4 19.gxf5 ♗xf5 20.♘c7 ♕xd6 21.♘xa8 ♖xa8=∞

17...♗h6!

17...♘e3 18.♖e1 ♘xd1 19.♖xe8+ ♕xe8 20.♘xe8 ♘xb2 21.♗b5 a6 22.♗f1 ♘a4∞

18.♗xh6 ♕xc7 19.♖c1

19.♗b5? ♗d7 20.♖c1 ♕d6 21.♗xd7 ♕xd7-+

19...♘xh6 20.♗b5 ♕d8 21.♗xe8 ♕xe8∓ 22.♖e1

22.♕xd4 ♘f5 23.♕f6 ♕f8 24.♖fe1 ♗d7 25.g4 ♕d6 26.♕xd6 ♘xd6 27.♖c7 ♖d8∓

22...♕d8 23.♕xd4 ♘f5 24.♕f4

24.♕e5 ♘d6 25.g4 a5! 26.a4 ♖a6 27.♕e7 ♕xe7 28.♖xe7 ♔f8 29.♖cc7 h5 30.h3 ♖b6∓

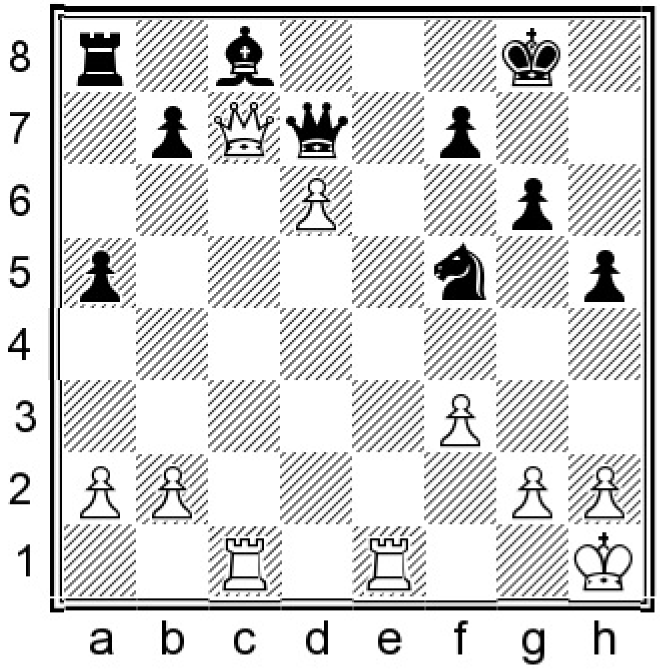
24...h5

24...♘d6! 25.♖c3 (25.g4 a5 26.♕e5 ♖a6∓) 25...♗f5 26.g4 g5 27.♕e5 ♗g6∓

25.♕c7 ♕d7?!

25...♗d7 26.♕xb7 a5 27.♕c7 (27.♖c7 ♗e8∓) 27...♗b5∞

26.d6! a5?



26...♔h7 27.b4 b5 28.♖c5 a6 29.♖d5±

27.♖e7!+- ♕xc7

27...♕xd6 28.♖e8+ ♔g7 29.♕c3++-; 27...♘xe7 28.dxe7 ♕e8 29.♖d1+-

28.♖e8+ ♔g7 29.dxc7 f6 30.♖ce1 ♔f7 31.g4 hxg4 32.fxg4 b5 33.gxf5 ♗b7+ 34.♔g1 ♖xe8 35.fxg6+ ♔f8 36.g7+ 1-0

197. E94
Lagarde, Maxime (2631) - Mamedov, Rauf (2654)
Reykjavik 150/197, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.e4 d6 5.♘f3 O-O 6.♗e2 e5 7.O-O h6!?

7...♘c6 - 149/200

8.dxe5 dxe5 9.♕xd8

9.♘xe5 ♘xe4 10.♘xe4 ♗xe5 11.♗xh6 (11.♕xd8 ♖xd8 12.♗xh6 ♗xb2 13.♖ab1 (13.♖ad1 ♖xd1 14.♖xd1 ♘c6 15.♗g5 ♔g7=) 13...♗g7 14.♗g5 ♖e8 15.♗f3 ♘d7=) 11...♕h4 12.f4 ♕xh6 13.fxe5 ♕e3+ 14.♘f2 ♘c6 15.♗g4 ♗xg4 16.♕xg4 ♘xe5 17.♕h4 ♘d3 18.♔h1 ♘xf2+ 19.♕xf2=

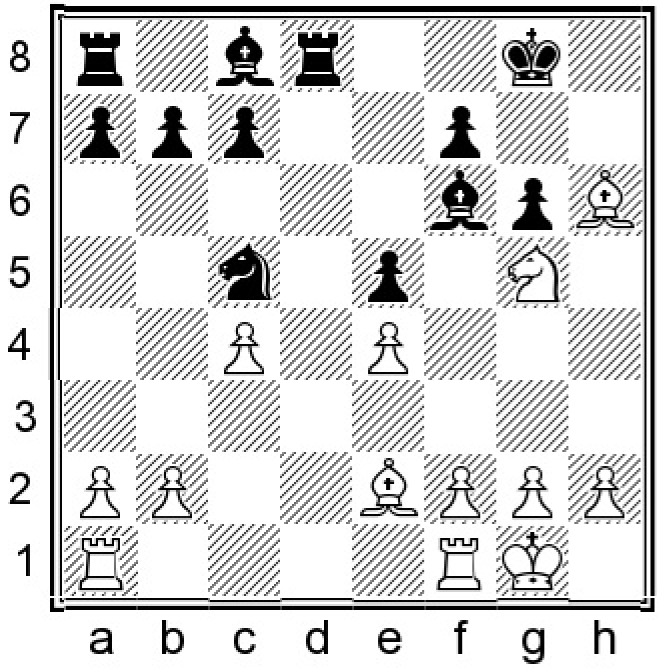
9...♖xd8 10.♘d5N

10.♘xe5 ♘xe4 11.♘xe4 ♗xe5= - 9.Ne5

10...♘a6

10...♘xd5 11.cxd5 c6 12.♗c4 (12.dxc6 ♘xc6=) 12...cxd5 13.♗xd5 ♘d7 14.♖d1 ♖e8=

11.♘xf6+ ♗xf6 12.♗xh6 ♘c5 13.♘g5



13.♖fd1 ♖xd1+ 14.♖xd1 ♘xe4 15.♗e3 ♗e6 16.h4 a5 17.♘g5 ♘xg5 18.hxg5 ♗e7=

13...♗g7

13...a5!?; 13...♗e7! 14.b4 (14.♖ad1 ♖xd1 15.♖xd1 f6 16.♘f3 ♘xe4 17.♗d3 ♔h7 18.♗e3 ♘d6∓) 14...♘e6 15.♘xe6 ♗xe6 16.♗e3 ♗xb4∓

14.♗xg7 ♔xg7 15.b4 ♘a4 16.f4?

16.♖fe1 f6 17.♘f3 ♘c3 18.♗f1 a5 19.b5 ♘a4 20.♖ac1 ♘c5 21.♖c2 a4⯹

16...f6 17.♘f3

17.♘h3 ♘c3 18.♖ae1 ♖d2 19.♗f3 ♗xh3 20.gxh3 ♘xa2 21.b5 a5 22.bxa6 bxa6∓

17...♘c3 18.♖ae1 exf4∓ 19.e5

19.♗d1 a5 20.b5 (20.bxa5 ♖xa5 21.♗b3 g5∓) 20...♗e6-+

19...♗f5

19...a5 20.b5 ♗f5 21.exf6+ ♔xf6

20.exf6+ ♔xf6 21.♘h4 ♖d2

21...♖e8 22.♘xf5 ♘xe2+ 23.♔f2 ♘c3∓

22.♗h5?!

22.♗d1 ♖ad8 23.♘xf5 ♖xd1 24.♘h6 ♖xe1 25.♖xe1 ♖d4∓

22...gxh5 23.♖xf4 ♘e2+ 24.♖xe2 ♖xe2-+ 25.♖xf5+ ♔e6 26.♖xh5 ♖g8 27.a3 ♖g4 28.c5 ♖a2

28...♖e3 29.♔f2 ♖xa3-+

29.h3 ♖c4 30.♖h6+ ♔d5 31.♖h5+ ♔e6 32.♖h6+ ♔f7 33.♘f3 ♖cc2 34.♘e5+ ♔e7 35.♖g6 ♖xa3 36.h4 a5 37.bxa5 ♖xc5 38.♘f3 ♖axa5 39.♔f2 b5 40.g4 ♖a2+ 41.♔g3 ♖a3 42.g5 ♖f5 43.♖g7+ ♔f8 44.♖xc7 ♖axf3+ 45.♔g4 ♖5f4+ 46.♔h5 ♖h3 47.♔g6 ♖fxh4 48.♖f7+ ♔e8 0-1

198. E95
Niemann, Hans Moke (2609) - Amin, Bassem (2704)
Sharjah 150/198, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.e4 d6 5.♗e2 O-O 6.♘f3 e5 7.O-O ♘bd7 8.♗e3 ♕e7 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.h3 c6 11.♕c2

11.♕a4 - 112/(312)

11...♘h5 12.♖ab1N

12.♖fd1

12...♘f4 13.b4 ♘xe2+

13...♘e6 14.♖fd1 f5 15.♗f1 (15.exf5 gxf5 16.♗f1 ♔h8 17.♘e2 a5∓) 15...♔h8 16.b5 ♘dc5∞

14.♘xe2 f5 15.b5

15.♗g5 ♘f6 16.c5 h6 17.♗xf6 ♕xf6 18.♘c3 ♗e6∞

15...♘c5

15...f4?! 16.♗c1 g5 17.bxc6 bxc6 18.♖b3 ♖e8 19.♗a3 ♕f6 20.♖d1±

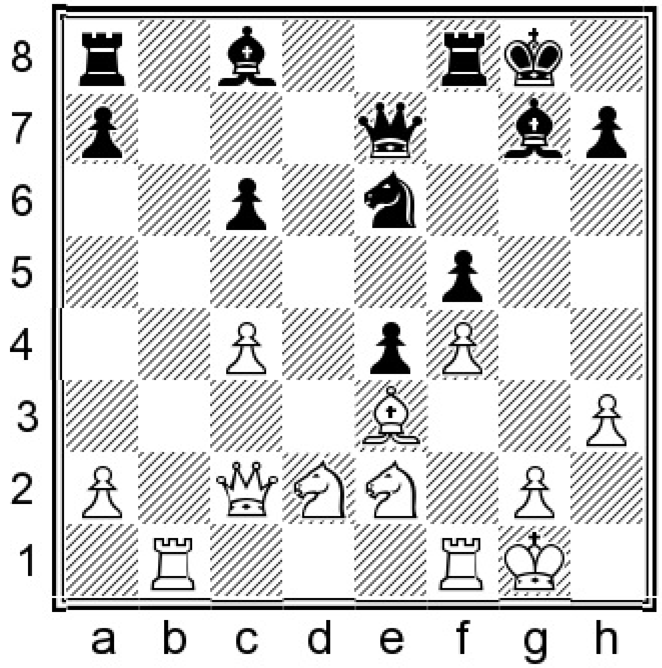
16.♘d2 ♘e6

16...♗e6 17.♖fd1 ♖ac8 18.♘c3 b6∞

17.exf5 gxf5 18.f4 e4?!

18...♘d4 19.♕d1 ♖e8 20.♗xd4 exd4 21.bxc6 ♕xe2 (21...bxc6 22.♘g3 c5∞) 22.cxb7 ♗xb7 23.♖xb7 d3∞

19.bxc6 bxc6



20.♘b3!± ♗a6

20...c5 21.♘c3 ♗d4 (21...♘d4 22.♘d5 ♕f7 23.♕f2±) 22.♘d5 ♗xe3+ 23.♘xe3±; 20...♖f6 21.♖fd1 ♖g6 22.♔h1 ♗f8 23.♘ed4±

21.♖fd1

21.♘ed4! ♘d8 22.♖fd1 ♖c8 (22...♖f6 23.♘a5±) 23.g4 ♕h4 24.♕g2±

21...♖ad8 22.♔h2?!

22.♘bd4 ♘xd4 (22...♕e8 23.♖bc1 ♘xd4 24.♘xd4 ♗c8 25.♘b3±) 23.♘xd4 ♕c5 24.♕f2! ♕xc4 25.♖bc1 ♕a4 26.♖d2!±

22...♖xd1

22...c5! 23.♖xd8 ♖xd8 24.♘g3 ♕f8 25.♘a5 ♗d4 26.♗c1 (26.♗xd4 ♘xd4 27.♕f2 ♕f7∞) 26...♖c8∞

23.♖xd1 ♕b4 24.♖c1

24.♘g3! ♗xc4 25.♘h5 (25.♖d7 ♗d5 26.♕f2±) 25...♗h8 26.♕f2±

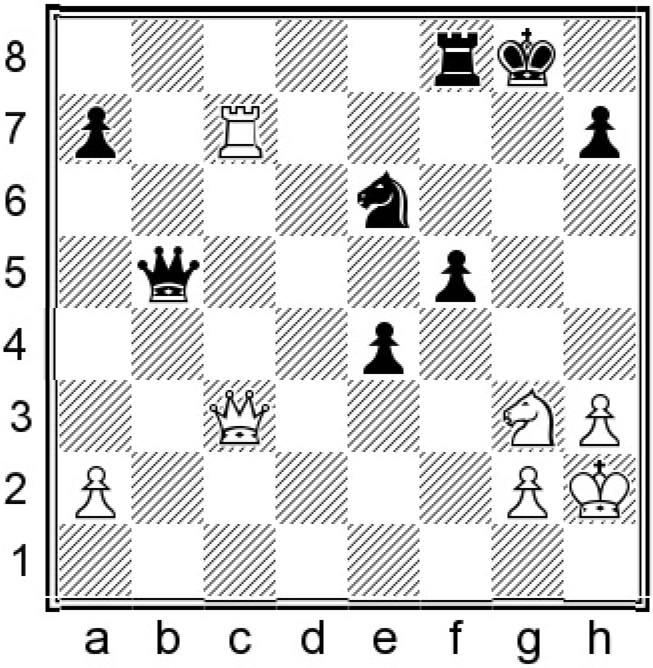
24...c5 25.♘g3 ♗d4 26.♕f2 ♗xe3 27.♕xe3 ♗xc4 28.♘xc5 ♘xc5 29.♕d4 ♘e6 30.♖xc4 ♕b5

30...♘xd4! 31.♖xb4 ♖d8 32.♘f1 ♘c2 33.♖c4 ♖d1 34.♖xc2 ♖xf1=

31.♕c3 ♘xf4?

31...♕d5 32.♖a4 ♘xf4 33.♖xa7 ♘e6 34.♖a5 ♕d3 35.♕b2±

32.♖c7+- ♘e6



33.♘h5! ♕d3 34.♕e5 1-0

199. E97
Navara, David (2675) - Shevchenko, Kirill (2619)
Polanica-Zdroj 150/199, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.e4 d6 5.♘f3 O-O 6.♗e2 e5 7.O-O ♘c6 8.d5 ♘e7 9.b4 ♘h5 10.♖e1 f5 11.a4 h6 12.a5 ♘f6 13.♘d2

13.exf5 - 145/199

13...f4 14.c5 g5 15.a6N

15.♗f1

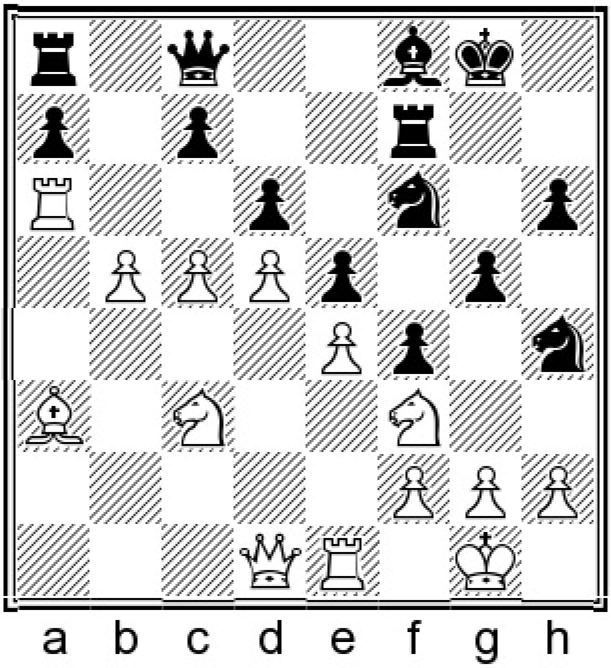
15...bxa6

15...b6 16.cxd6 cxd6 17.♘c4 ♘g6 18.♘b5 ♘e8 19.♗h5 ♖f6 20.♗d2±

16.♗xa6 ♘g6 17.♗xc8

17.♘b5 ♗g4 (17...♗xa6 18.♖xa6 ♕d7 19.♘xa7±) 18.♕c2 ♘h4 19.cxd6 cxd6 20.♘c7 ♖b8 21.♘e6 ♗xe6 22.dxe6±

17...♕xc8 18.b5 ♖f7 19.♖a6 ♗f8 20.♗a3 ♘h4 21.♘f3?!

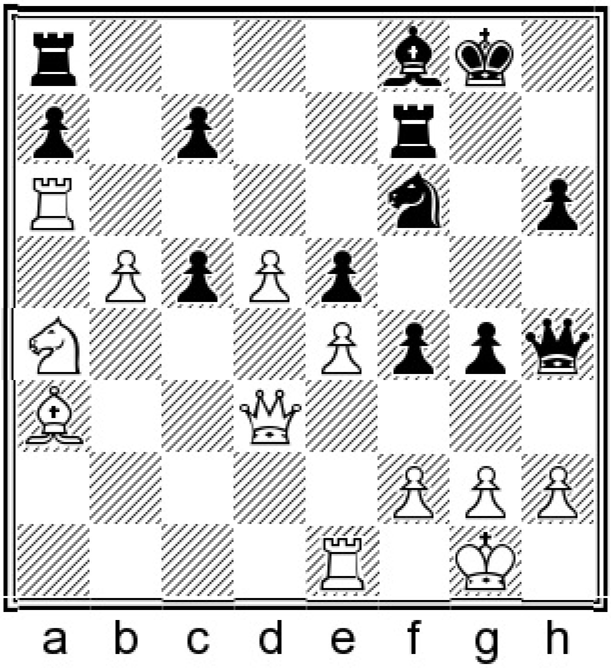


21.cxd6 cxd6 22.♖c6 ♕d7 23.♔h1 h5 (23...f3 24.♘xf3 ♘xf3 25.gxf3±) 24.♖g1 g4 25.♘c4±

21...♕g4! 22.♘xh4 ♕xh4 23.♕f3?

23.g3 ♕h3 24.♕f3 dxc5 25.♕g2 ♕h5∞ (25...g4∞)

23...g4 24.♕d3 dxc5 25.♘a4?!



25.d6! cxd6 26.b6 ♘h5 27.♗c1 f3 28.♘d1 ♘f4 29.♗xf4 exf4 30.e5 dxe5 31.♕g6+ ♖g7 32.♕e4 ♕d8 33.g3∞

25...c4! 26.♕c3 g3! 27.fxg3 fxg3 28.hxg3 ♕h5?!

28...♕g5 29.♗xf8 (29.♖xf6 ♕xf6 30.♔h2 ♗xa3 31.♕xa3 ♕f2-+) 29...♖axf8 30.♕c1 ♕h5-+

29.♖xf6 ♖xf6 30.♗xf8

30.♘b2! ♗xa3 31.♕xa3 ♕g5 32.♘xc4 ♖af8∓

30...♖axf8 31.♘c5 ♔h7??

31...♕f7! 32.♕xe5 ♖f1+ 33.♖xf1 ♕xf1+ 34.♔h2 ♖f2 35.♕e8+ ♔h7 36.♕d7+ ♖f7 37.♕c6 c3∓

32.♘d7 ♕g5 33.♖a1 ♖8f7 34.♘xf6+ ♕xf6 35.♔h2 h5 36.♖xa7 h4 37.gxh4

37.♖a6 ♕g5 38.gxh4 ♕f4+ 39.♕g3 ♕xe4 40.♖e6+-

37...♕f2 38.♖a6?

38.♖a3! ♖f4 39.♕xe5 ♖xh4+ 40.♖h3 ♖xh3+ 41.♔xh3 ♕e3+ 42.g3 ♕c5 43.♕f5+ ♔g7 44.♕d7+ ♔f8 45.e5+-

38...♖f4-+ 39.♕h3 ♖xh4 40.♖a3 ♕f4+ 0-1

200. * E99
Thybo, Jesper Sondergaard (2604) - Jones, Gawain C B (2654)
Terme Catez 150/200, 2021

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.e4 d6 5.♘f3 O-O 6.♗e2 e5 7.O-O ♘c6 8.d5 ♘e7 9.♘e1 ♘d7 10.♘d3 f5 11.f3 f4 12.b4 g5 13.c5 ♘f6 14.a4 h5

14...♘g6 15.a5 (15.b5 - 108/(301)) 15...♖f7 16.a6 bxa6N (16...b6) 17.♘f2 ♗f8 18.c6 h5 19.♗xa6 ♗xa6 (19...g4 20.♗b7 ♖b8 21.♖xa7 ♘h4 22.♔h1 ♗h6 23.b5±) 20.♖xa6 ♕c8 21.♖a3 g4 22.g3 ♗h6 23.♔h1 gxf3?! (23...fxg3! 24.♗xh6 (24.hxg3? ♕f8 25.♘e2 h4 26.gxh4 ♘xh4∓) 24...gxf2 25.♖xf2 ♘h4 26.fxg4 hxg4 27.♗g5 g3! 28.hxg3 ♘h5 29.♔g1 ♕h3 30.♗xh4 ♖xf2 31.♔xf2 ♖f8+ 32.♔e2 ♘xg3+ 33.♗xg3 ♕xg3 34.♕e1 (34.♔d2 ♖f2+ 35.♘e2 ♕xa3 36.♕g1+ ♔h7 37.♕xf2 ♕xb4+ 38.♔d3 ♕b1+ 39.♔e3 ♕b3+=) 34...♕g2+ 35.♔d3 ♖f1 36.♕e2 ♖f3+ 37.♕xf3 ♕xf3+ 38.♔c2=) 24.♕xf3 ♘g4 25.♘e2± Thybo,J (2575)-Forcen Esteban,D (2566) Benasque 150/(200) 2021

15.a5 ♘g6 16.♘f2 ♔h8

16...♖f7 - 108/301

17.a6 bxa6 18.c6N

18.♗d2 ♖g8 19.♗xa6 g4 20.♗xc8 ♕xc8 21.♗e1 ♗h6∞; 18.♗xa6 g4 19.fxg4 hxg4 20.g3 ♗h6∞

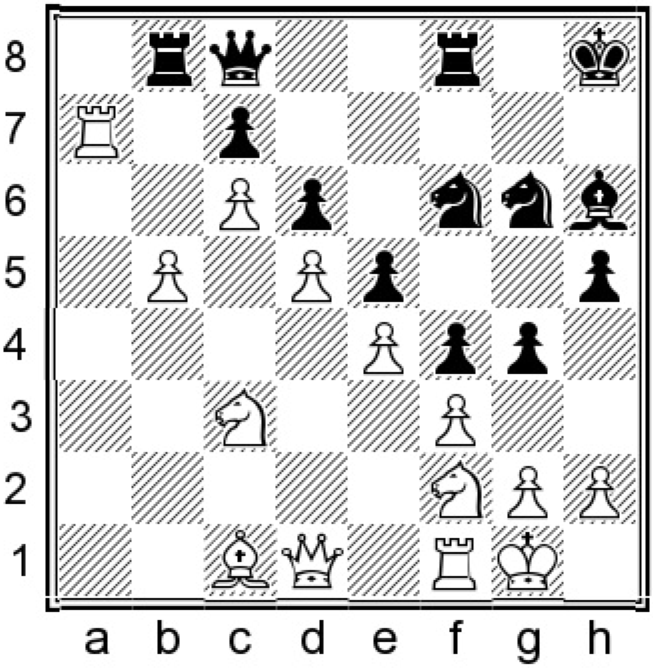
18...♖b8 19.♗xa6 g4

19...♖xb4 20.♗d2 (20.♗xc8 ♕xc8 21.♖xa7 g4∞) 20...g4 21.♗xc8 ♕xc8∞

20.♗xc8 ♕xc8 21.b5 ♗h6

21...♘h4 22.fxg4 hxg4 23.g3 ♘f3+ 24.♔g2±

22.♖xa7



22.g3 gxf3 23.♕xf3 ♖f7 24.♔h1 ♕f8 25.gxf4 ♗xf4 26.♗xf4 exf4 27.♖xa7 ♘e5 28.♕h3 f3=∞

22...♘h4! 23.fxg4 ♖g8

23...hxg4 24.♔h1 ♖g8 - 23...Rg8

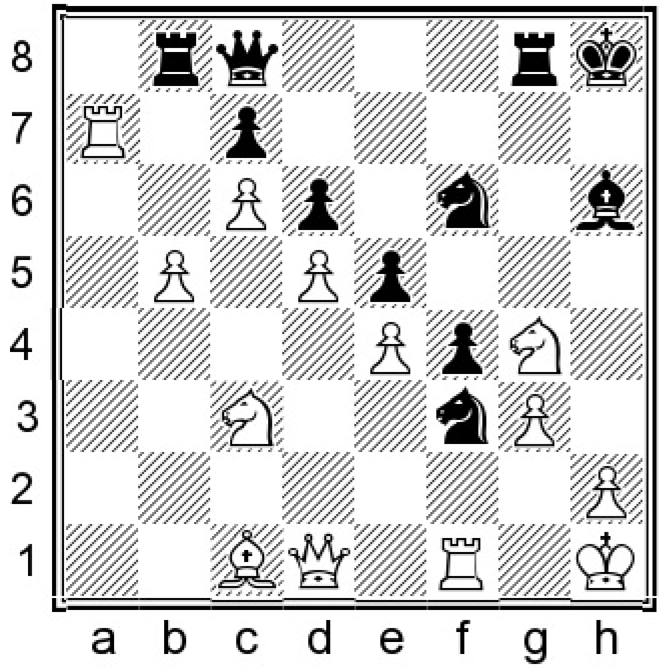
24.♔h1

24.g3 hxg4! 25.♔h1 - 24.Kh1 (25.gxh4? g3∓)

24...hxg4 25.g3 ♘f3

25...♕e8!? 26.♖a2 (26.♖xc7 ♕h5 27.♘e2 ♘f3 28.h3 ♖xb5-+; 26.gxh4 g3 27.hxg3 ♖xg3 28.♖a2 ♖xc3∓; 26.♖g1 fxg3 27.♖xg3 ♕h5 28.♗xh6 ♘f3! 29.♖g2 ♕xh6∓) 26...♕h5 27.gxh4 ♕xh4 28.♘d3 ♘h5↑

26.♘xg4



26.gxf4 exf4 27.♘xg4 ♕xg4 28.♕xf3 ♕h4 29.♗xf4 (29.♕f2 ♕h3=∞) 29...♘h5! 30.♘e2 ♗xf4 31.♘xf4 ♘g3+ 32.♔g1 ♘xe4+ 33.♘g2 ♖xg2+! 34.♕xg2 ♖g8 35.b6 ♖xg2+ 36.♔xg2 ♕g5+ 37.♔f3 ♘d2+ 38.♔e2 ♘xf1 39.♖a8+ ♔h7 40.b7 ♕g2+ 41.♔e1! ♕e4+ 42.♔xf1 ♕f3+=

26...♘xh2! 27.♘xh2 ♕h3 28.♖f3 fxg3?

28...♖xg3! 29.♖a2 ♖bg8 30.♖xg3 fxg3 31.♕f1 ♕h4 32.♗xh6 ♕xh6 33.b6 ♘g4 34.♕g1 cxb6 35.♖g2 ♖f8 36.♖xg3 ♖f1! 37.♖xg4 ♖xg1+ 38.♖xg1 ♕e3 39.♖g6 ♕xc3 40.♖xd6 ♕c1+ 41.♔g2 ♕d2+=

29.♖a2 ♘g4

29...♗xc1 30.♕xc1 ♕h4 31.♕g1±

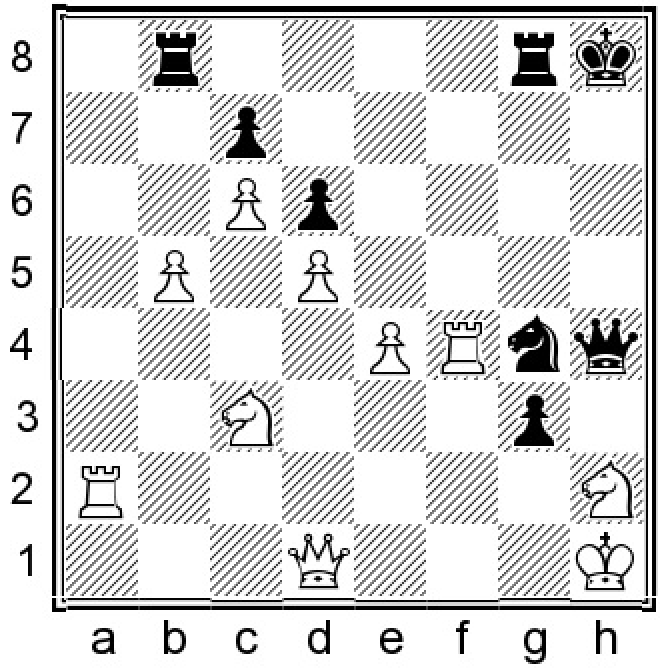
30.♗xh6 ♕h4

30...♕xh6 31.♖xg3 ♘f2+ 32.♖xf2 ♖xg3 33.♘e2+-

31.♗f4?

31.♖xg3! ♕xg3 32.♘xg4 ♖xg4 33.♖h2 ♖h4 34.♕g1! ♖xh2+ 35.♕xh2 ♕f3+ 36.♔g1 ♖g8+ 37.♗g5++-

31...exf4 32.♖xf4



32...♖bf8! 33.♕d4+?

33.♕f3 ♖xf4 34.♕xf4 gxh2 35.♖xh2 ♕xh2+ 36.♕xh2+ ♘xh2 37.♔xh2 ♔g7 38.♔g3 ♔f6+ 39.♔f4 ♖g1=

33...♔h7 34.e5 gxh2 35.♕d3+ ♔h8 36.♖xf8 ♖xf8 37.♕d1 ♕h3 0-1

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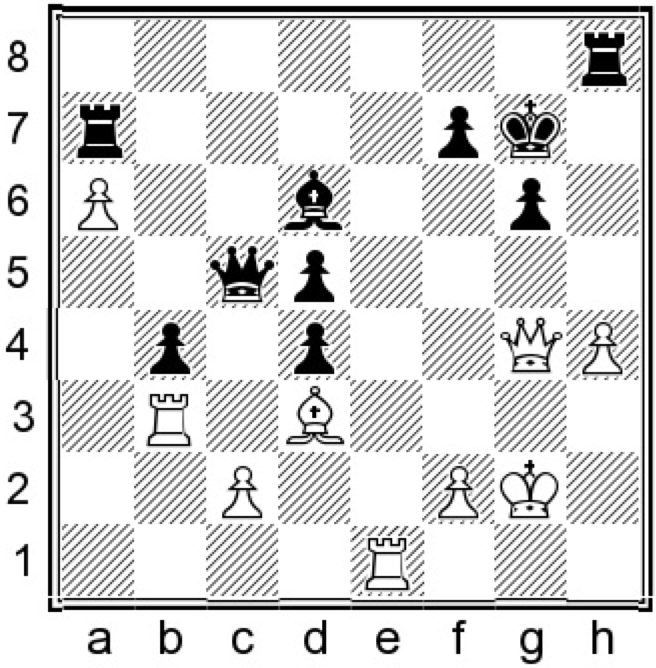
COMBINATIONS

By GM Branko Tadić

CLASSIFICATION

I – Combinations with mating attack
II – Combinations to reach the draw
III – Other combinations

1. Demchenko, Anton (2597) - Donchenko, Alexander (2657)
Reykjavik, 2021
I a



1.? +–

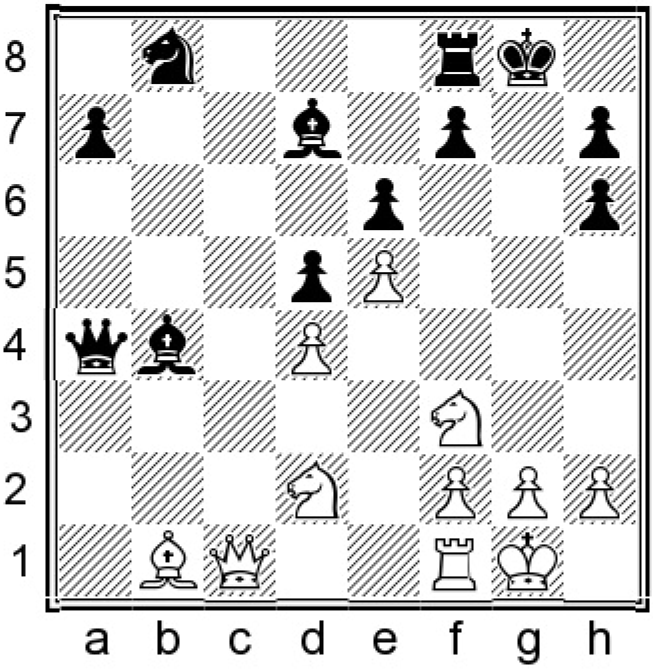
Show/Hide Solution

1.♗xg6! fxg6 2.♖e6 ♖h6 3.♖xd6! ♖f7

3...♕xd6 4.♕xd4+ ♔g8 5.♕xa7+-

4.♖d7+-

2. Brunello, Marina (2359) - Osmak, Iulija (2423)
Terme Catez, 2021
I a



1.? +−

Show/Hide Solution

1.♘e4! dxe4 2.♕xh6 f6 3.exf6 ♔f7

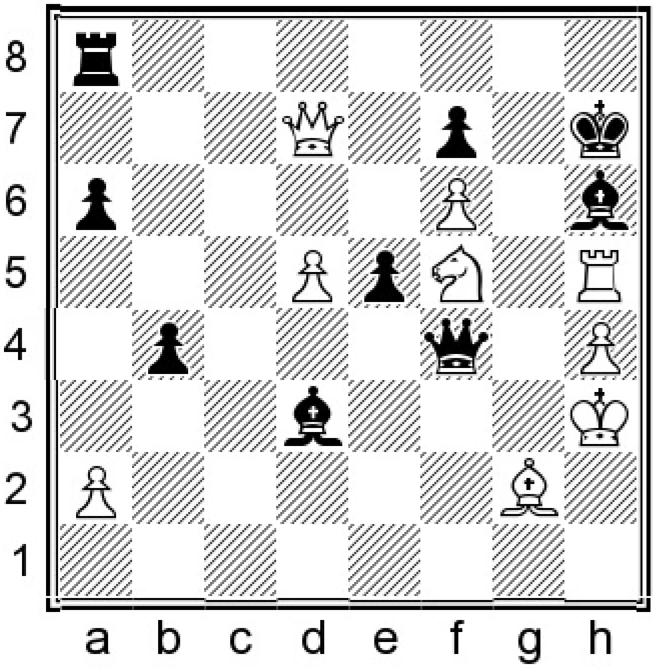
3...♖xf6 4.♕xf6 exf3 5.♕d8++-

4.♘g5+ ♔e8 5.♘xh7

5.♗xe4+-

5...♕a3 6.♘xf8 ♗xf8 7.♕h5+ ♔d8 8.♗xe4+-

3. Fedoseev, Vladimir (2704) - Ponkratov, Pavel (2659)
Russia (ch), 2021
I d



1...? −+

Show/Hide Solution

1...♖a7!! 2.♕c8

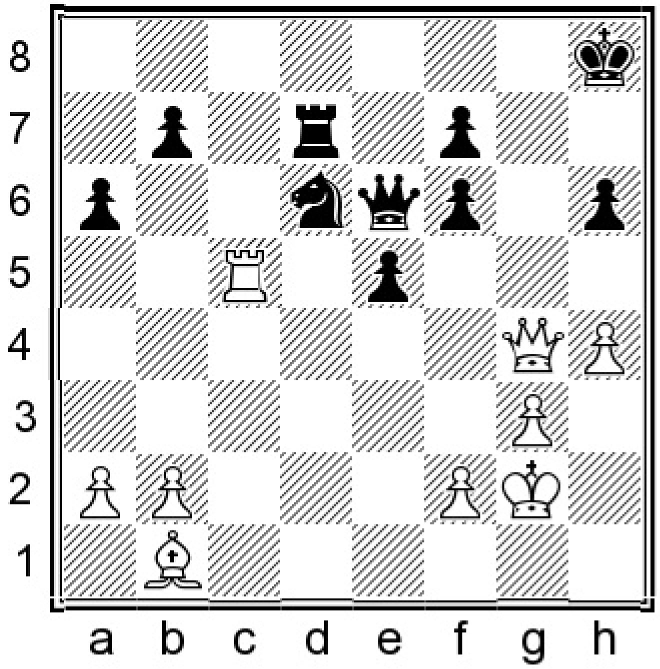
2.♕xa7 ♗xf5+ 3.♖xf5 ♕xf5+ 4.♔h2 ♗f4+ 5.♔g1 ♕b1+ 6.♗f1 ♔h6 7.♕c5 ♕e1 8.♕f8+ ♔g6 9.♕g7+ ♔f5 10.♕g2 ♔xf6-+

2...♖c7! 3.♖xh6+

3.♕xc7 ♗xf5+ 4.♖xf5 ♕xf5+ 5.♔g3 ♗f4+ 6.♔f2 ♕xf6-+

3...♕xh6 4.♕xc7 ♗xf5+ 5.♔h2 ♕xh4+ 6.♔g1 ♕d4+ 7.♔h2 ♔g6-+

4. Ivic, Velimir (2620) - Van Foreest, Lucas (2532)
Terme Catez, 2021
I d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1.? +−

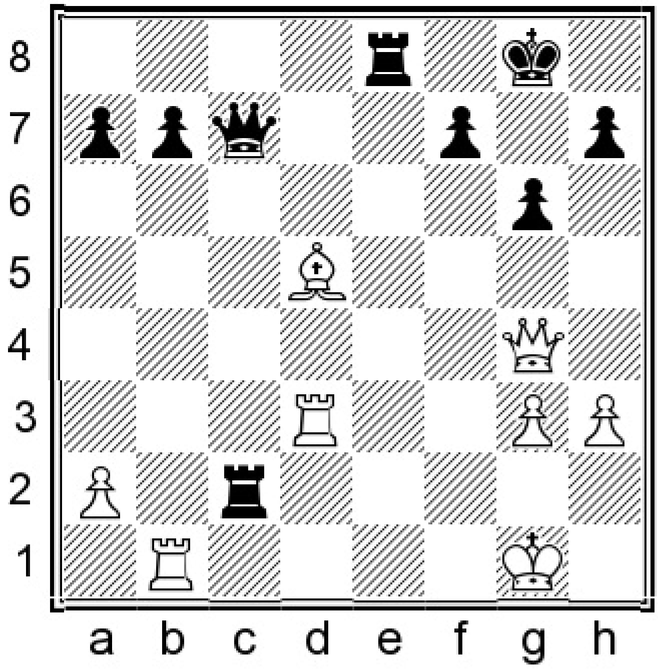
Show/Hide Solution

1.♕e2

1.♗f5! ♕xf5 2.♖c8+ ♘xc8 3.♕xf5+-

1...♔g7=

5. Saduakassova, Dinara (2491) - Maltsevskaya, Aleksandra (2411)
Riga, 2021
I d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1...? −+

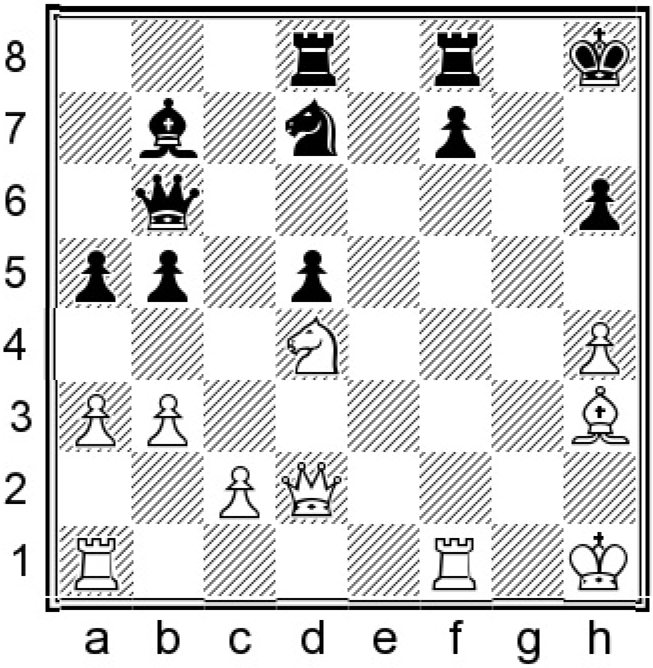
Show/Hide Solution

1...♖c1+?

1...♕b6+! 2.♖xb6 ♖e1#

2.♖xc1 ♕xc1+ 3.♖d1 ♖e1+ 4.♖xe1 ♕xe1+ 5.♔h2 ♕d2+ 6.♗g2 ♕xa2 7.♕c8+ ♔g7 8.♕xb7 a5⯹

6. Gunina, Valentina (2462) - Hoang, Thanh Trang (2380)
Riga, 2021
I i



1.? +−

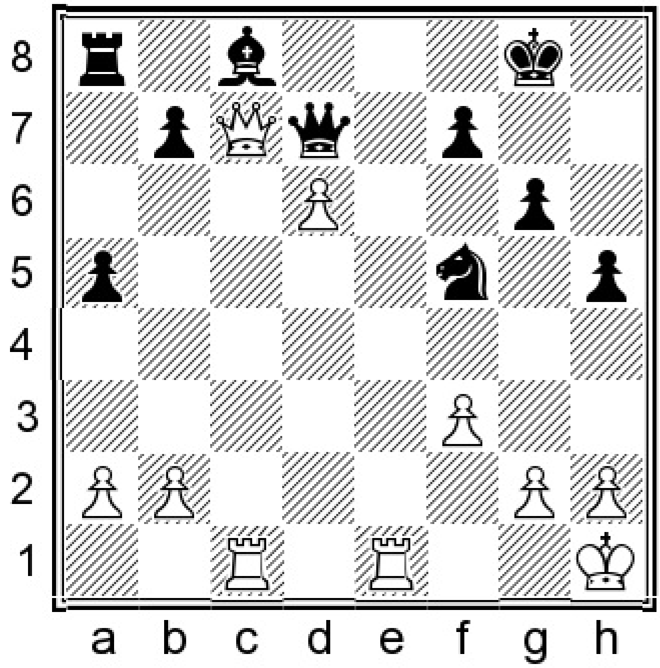
Show/Hide Solution

1.♗e6! ♔h7 2.♗f5+ ♔h8 3.♘e6! d4+ 4.♔h2 ♕d6+ 5.♔h3 ♗g2+ 6.♕xg2

6.♔xg2 ♖g8+ 7.♔h1 ♕d5+ 8.♔h2 ♕e5+ 9.♖f4 fxe6 10.♖e1+-

6...fxe6 7.♕g6 1-0

7. Sargissian, Gabriel (2664) - Christiansen, Johan Sebastian (2582)
Terme Catez, 2021
III d



1.? +−

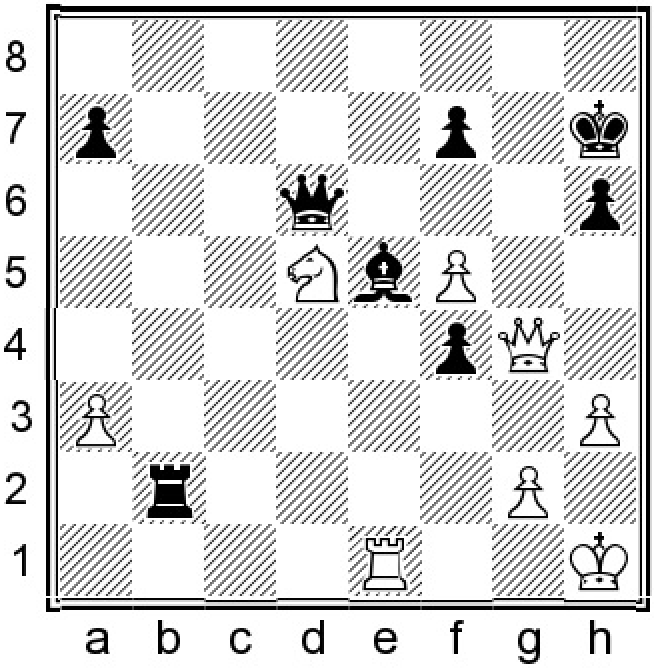
Show/Hide Solution

1.♖e7! ♕xc7

1...♘xe7 2.dxe7 ♕e8 3.♖d1+-

2.♖e8+ ♔g7 3.dxc7 f6 4.♖ce1 ♔f7 5.g4 hxg4 6.fxg4 b5 7.gxf5! ♗b7+ 8.♔g1 ♖xe8 9.fxg6+! ♔f8 10.g7+ 1-0

8. Yilmaz, Mustafa Enes (2626) - Wojtaszek, Radoslaw (2691)
Riga, 2021
III d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1.? +−

Show/Hide Solution

1.f6! ♗xf6 2.♕f5+?

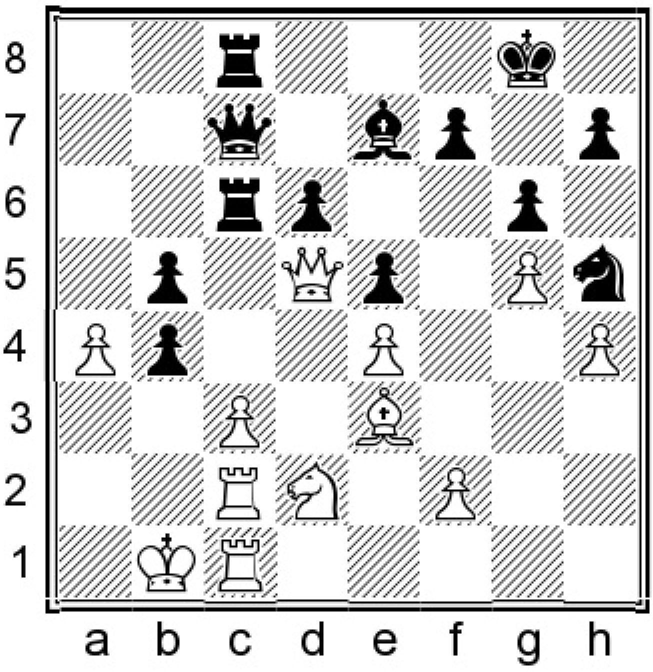
2.♕d7!!+-

2...♔g7 3.♘xf4 ♗h4?

3...♕c6!∞

4.♘h5+ ♔f8 5.♕c8+ ♕d8 6.♕c5+ ♔g8 7.♕c3

9. Firouzja, Alireza (2770) - Yilmaz, Mustafa Enes (2626)
Terme Catez, 2021
III e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1.? +−

Show/Hide Solution

1.♕xc6!! ♕xc6 2.cxb4 ♕xc2+

2...♕d7 3.♖xc8+ ♔g7 4.a5+-

3.♖xc2 ♖b8

3...♖xc2 4.♔xc2 bxa4 5.b5+-

4.a5 ♘f4 5.♖c7 ♗d8 6.♖d7 ♘d3 7.a6 ♘xb4 8.a7 ♖a8 9.♖xd6 ♗c7 10.♖d7 ♘a6 11.♖d5+-

ENDINGS

By IM Goran Arsović

CLASSIFICATION

♙

♙ **0**	1, 2, 3 ∥ ♙ : ♔ 1 ♙ : 1 ♙ 2 ○○ ♙ : 2 ♙
♙ **1**	∥ 2 ♙ : 2 ♙
♙ **2**	3 ♙ : 3 ♙
♙ **3**	4 ♙ : 4 ♙ 5 ♙ : 5 ♙ 6 ♙ : 6 ♙ 7 ♙ : 7 ♙ 8 ♙ : 8 ♙
♙ **4**	2 ♙ : 1 ♙
♙ **5**	3 ♙ : 2 ♙
♙ **6**	4 ♙ : 3 ♙
♙ **7**	5 ♙ : 4 ♙
♙ **8**	6 ♙ : 5 ♙ 7 ♙ : 6 ♙ 8 ♙ : 7 ♙
♙ **9**	∥ ♙

♘♗

♘♗ **0**	♘ : ♔ ♘ : ♙
♘♗ **1**	♗ : ♔ ♗ : ♙
♘♗ **2**	♘ : ♘
♘♗ **3**	♗ (└ ♙) : ♘ (┘ ♙) ♗ (┘ ♙) : ♘ (└ ♙)
♘♗ **4**	♗ (└ ♙) : ♘ (└ ♙) └ >
♘♗ **5**	♗ (└ ♙) : ♘ (└ ♙) ┘ >
♘♗ **6**	♗ : ♗ ◧
♘♗ **7**	♗ : ♗ ▬
♘♗ **8**	♘♘/♘♗/♗♗ : ♔ ♘♘/♘♗/♗♗ : ♙ ♘♘/♘♗/♗♗ : ♘/♗
♘♗ **9**	∥ ♘♗

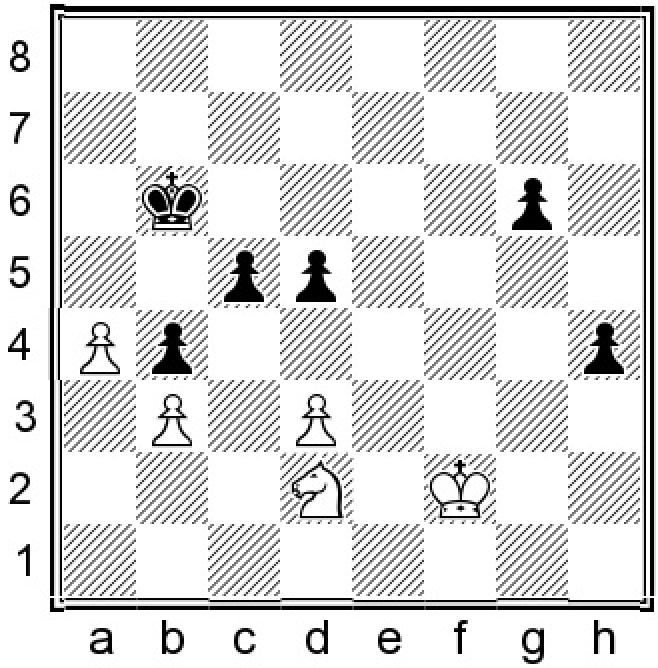
♖

♖ **0**	♖ : ♔ ♖ : ♙
♖ **1**	♖ : ♘
♖ **2**	♖ : ♗
♖ **3**	♖ (┘ ♙) : ♖ (┘ ♙) ♖ + 1 ♙ : ♖ (┘ ♙)
♖ **4**	♖ + 2, 3, 4 ∥ ♙ : ♖ (┘ ♙)
♖ **5**	♖ + 2 ♙ : ♖ + 1 ♙
♖ **6**	∥ ♖ : ♖ └ >
♖ **7**	♖ (└ ♙) : ♖ (└ ♙) ┘ >
♖ **8**	♖ : ♘♘/♘♗/♗♗ ♖ : ♘♘♘/♘♘♗/♘♗♗/♗♗♗ ♖♘/♖♗ : ♙ ♖♘/♖♗ : ♘/♗ ♖♘/♖♗ : ♖
♖ **9**	∥ ♖

♕

♕ **0**	♕ : ♔ ♕ : ♙
♕ **1**	♕ : ♘ ♕ : ♗
♕ **2**	♕ : ♖
♕ **3**	♕ (┘ ♙) : ♕ (┘ ♙) ♕ (└ ♙) : ♕ (┘ ♙)
♕ **4**	♕ (└ ♙) : ♕ (└ ♙)
♕ **5**	♕ : ♘♘/♘♗/♗♗ ♕ : ♖♘/♖♗
♕ **6**	♕ : ♖♖ ♕ : ♘♘♘/♘♘♗/♘♗♗/♗♗♗ ♕ : ♖♘♘/♖♘♗/♖♗♗ ♕ : ♖♖♘/♖♖♗ ♕ : ♖♖♖
♕ **7**	♕♘/♕♗ : ♙ ♕♘/♕♗ : ♘/♗ ♕♘/♕♗ : ♖ ♕♘/♕♗ : ♕
♕ **8**	♕♘/♕♗ : ♘♘/♘♗/♗♗ ♕♘/♕♗ : ♖♘/♖♗ ♕♘/♕♗ : ♖♖ ♕♘/♕♗ : ♕♘/♕♗
♕ **9**	∥ ♕

1. Beliavsky, Alexander G (2514) - Zaja, Ivan (2461)
Hrvatska, 2021
♘♗ 0/h



1.? +−

Show/Hide Solution

1.d4! c4

1...g5 2.dxc5+ ♔xc5 3.♘f3 d4 4.♘xg5+-

2.bxc4 dxc4 3.♘xc4+ ♔c6 4.♘d2 g5 5.♔f3

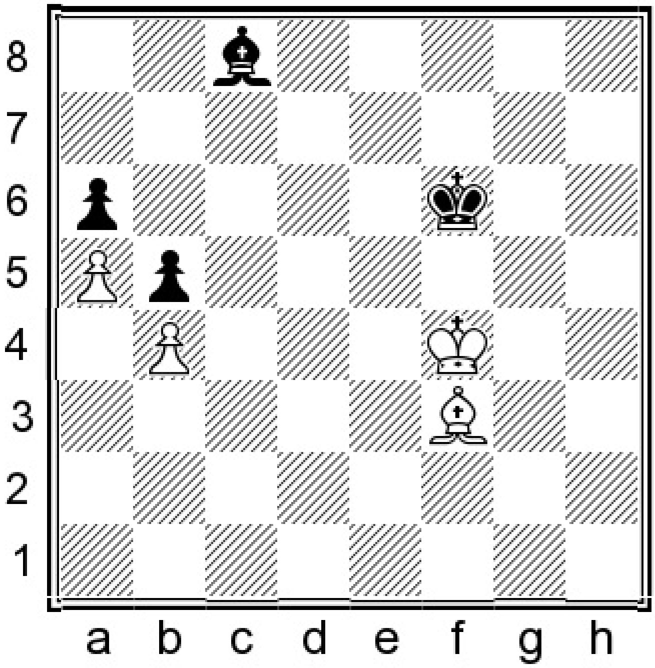
5.♘b3 ♔d5 6.a5 ♔c6 7.♔f3 ♔b5 8.d5+-

5...h3 6.♔g3 g4 7.♘b3 ♔d5

7...♔d5 8.a5+-

1-0

2. Carlsen, Magnus (2855) - Firouzja, Alireza (2754)
Stavanger, 2021
♘♗ 7/j



1.? +−

Show/Hide Solution

1.♗d5! ♗d7 2.♗b7 ♔e6 3.♔e4

3.♗xa6? ♗c6 4.♔e3 ♔d5! 5.♔d3 ♔e5 6.♗c8 ♗e4+ 7.♔c3 ♗c6=

3...♔d6 4.♗xa6 ♗c6+

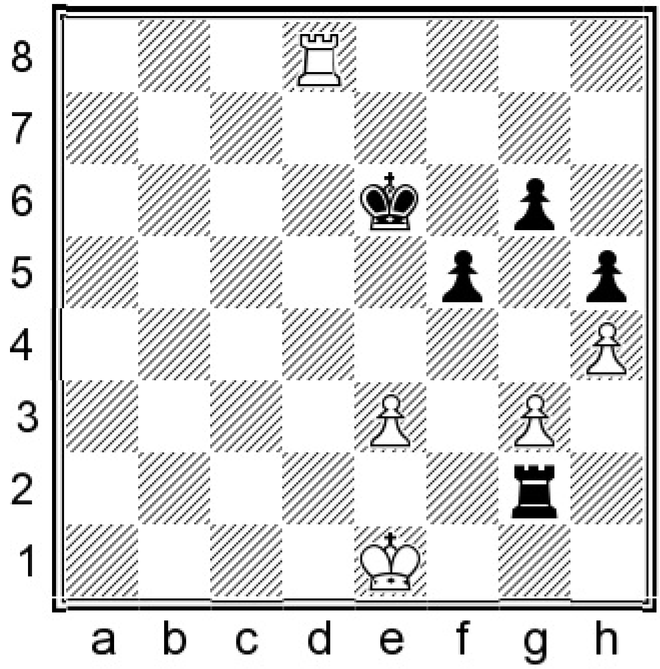
4...♔c6 5.♔e5 ♗g4 6.♔f6 ♗h3 7.♔e7 ♗f5 8.♔d8 ♗e6 9.♗c8+-

5.♔d4+- ♗e8 6.♗b7 ♗d7 7.♗f3 ♗c8 8.♗e2 ♗d7

8...♔c6 9.♔e5+-

9.♗d3 ♗c6 10.♗e4 1-0

3. Andreikin, Dmitry (2728) - Fedoseev, Vladimir (2704)
Russia (ch), 2021
♖ 7/g



1.? =

Show/Hide Solution

1.♖d1!

1.♖d2 ♖xg3 2.♔f2 ♖g4-+

1...♔e5

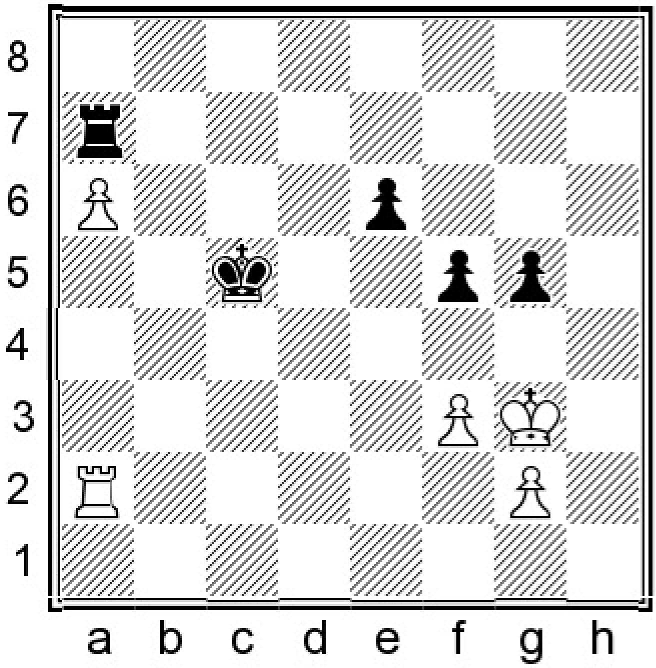
1...♖xg3 2.♔f2 ♖g4 3.♖h1=

2.♔f1 ♖xg3 3.♔f2 ♖g4 4.♖h1= ♔e4 5.♖h2

5.♖a1 f4 6.♖a4+ ♔e5 7.♖a5+ ♔f6 8.exf4 ♖xh4 9.♔g3 ♖g4+ 10.♔f3=

5...♔d3 6.♖h1 ♔d2 7.♖h3 ♔d3 8.♖h1 ♔e4 9.♖h2 f4 10.exf4 ♖xf4+ 11.♔g2 ♖g4+ 12.♔h3 ♔e5 1/2-1/2

4. Abasov, Nijat (2638) - Viterbo Ferreira, Jorge Joao (2516)
Espana, 2021
♖ 7/h



1.? +–

Show/Hide Solution

1.f4! gxf4+

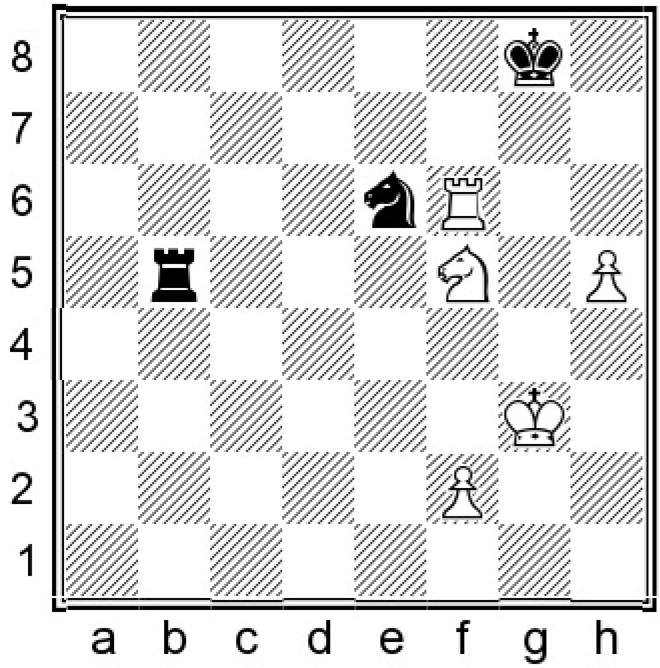
1...g4 2.♔h4 ♚d6 3.♔g5 ♚e7 4.♔g6+-

2.♔xf4 ♚d6 3.♖a5+- ♚c7 4.♔e5 ♚b8 5.♔xe6 ♜g7 6.♖a2 f4

6...♜g8 7.a7+ ♚a8 8.♔xf5 ♜f8+ 9.♔g6 ♜g8+ 10.♔f6 ♜g3 11.♔f5 ♜g8 12.g4+-

7.♔e5 ♜f7 8.♖f2 ♜g7 9.♔xf4 ♚a7 10.♖a2 ♜f7+ 11.♔e5 ♜g7 12.♔f5 ♜g3 13.♔f4 ♜g8 14.g4 ♜f8+ 15.♔e5 ♜g8 16.♔f5 ♜f8+ 17.♔e6 ♜g8 18.♖a4 1-0

5. Maghsoodloo, Parham (2701) - Eljanov, Pavel (2691)
Espana, 2021
♖ 9/h



1...? =

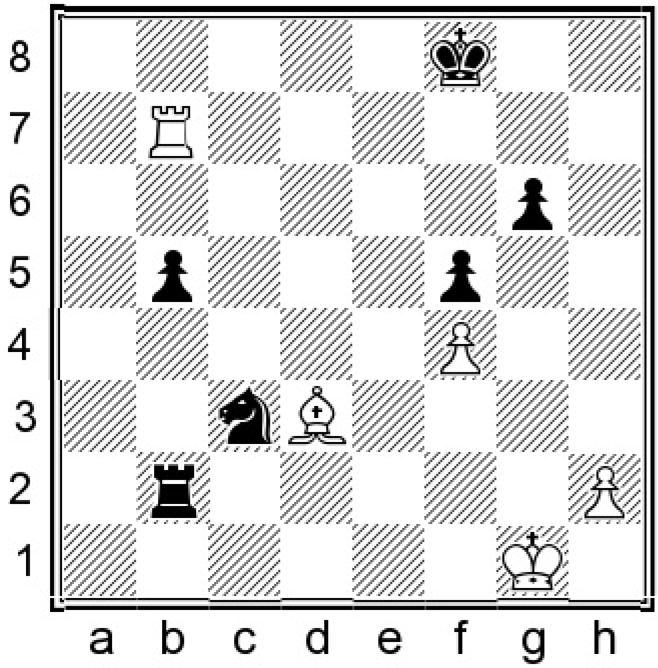
Show/Hide Solution

1...♘g7! 2.♘e7+

2.♘xg7 ♔xg7 3.♖g6+ ♔h7 4.♔g4 (4.♖g4 ♔h6= (4...♖xh5? 5.♖h4 ♖xh4 6.♔xh4 ♔h6 7.♔g4 ♔g6 8.♔f4 ♔f6 9.f3+-)) 4...♖b2 5.f4 (5.♖f6 ♔g7 6.♖f4 ♖b1 7.♔g5 ♖b5+ 8.♖f5 ♖b1=) 5...♖g2+ 6.♔f5 ♖h2 7.♖g5 ♔h6 8.♖g6+ ♔h7 9.♔g5 ♖g2+ 10.♔f6 ♖h2=

2...♔h7 3.♖f7 ♖xh5= 4.♔g4 ♖h2 5.f4 ♔h6 6.♘d5 ♖g2+ 7.♔f3 ♖a2 8.♖f6+ ♔h7 9.♖b6 ♘h5 10.f5 ♖a4 11.♘b4 ♘f6 12.♘d3 ♔g7 13.♖b7+ ♔h6 14.♘c5 ♖a5 1/2-1/2

6. McPhillips, Joseph (2425) - Hebden, Mark (2455)
Great Britain (ch), 2021
♖ 9/i



1.? =

Show/Hide Solution

1.h4! ♖b4

1...b4 2.♗c4 ♘e4 3.♖f7+ ♔e8 4.♖g7 ♘d2 5.♗d5 b3 6.♖xg6 ♖c2 7.h5 b2 8.♗a2 b1=Q+ 9.♗xb1 ♘xb1 10.♖f6 ♖c5 11.h6=

2.h5! gxh5 3.♔h2

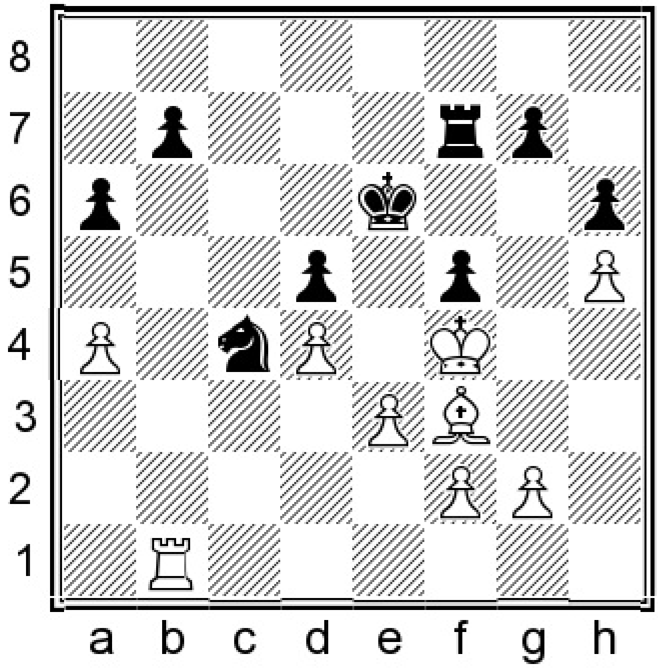
3.♖h7 ♖xf4 4.♖xh5 ♔e7 5.♖xf5=

3...♖xf4 4.♗xb5 ♖b4 5.♗c6 ♖xb7 6.♗xb7 ♔g7 7.♔g3 ♔g6 8.♔h4 ♘e4

8...♘e2 9.♗c6 ♘f4 10.♗f3 ♔h6 11.♗h1 ♘g6+ 12.♔h3 ♔g5 13.♗f3 ♘e5 14.♗g2 f4 15.♗b7 f3 16.♔g3 h4+ 17.♔h3=

9.♗a6 ♘f6 10.♗d3= ♘e4 11.♗e2 ♔f6 12.♗xh5 ♔e5 13.♗g4 f4 14.♗f3 ♔d4 15.♔g4 ♔e3 16.♗g2 ♘c5 17.♔f5 1/2-1/2

7. Anton Guijarro, David (2658) - Bjerre, Jonas Buhl (2569)
Riga, 2021
♖ 9/i



1.? +−

Show/Hide Solution

1.♗e2! ♖c7 2.♗d3 ♘d6 3.♖b6 ♖f7 4.f3+-

4.a5 ♖f6 5.♗c2 ♖f7 6.♗b3 ♖f6 7.f3 ♖f7 8.g4 fxg4+ 9.♔xg4 ♖c7 10.e4+-

4...♖f8 5.a5 ♖f7 6.g3 ♖f8 7.g4 fxg4+ 8.♔xg4 ♔d7 9.e4 ♔c7 10.e5 ♘c8

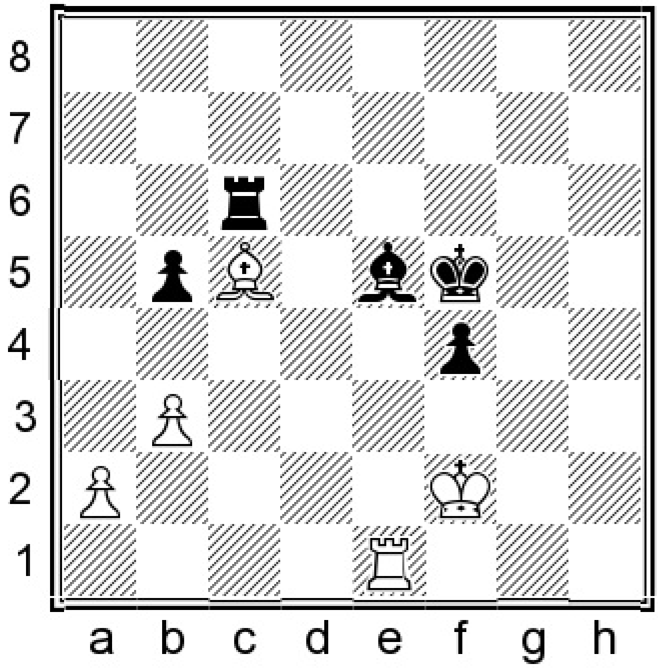
10...♘c4 11.♗xc4 dxc4 12.♖b4+-

11.♖g6 ♖g8 12.♖e6 ♖d8 13.♗f5

13.f4 ♖d7 14.f5+-

13...♖f8 14.♖g6 ♖f7 15.♗xc8 ♔xc8 16.f4 1-0

8. Bartel, Mateusz (2597) - Movsesian, Sergei (2627)
Riga, 2021
♖ 9/k



1.? =

Show/Hide Solution

1.♗b4!

1.b4? ♖a6 2.♖e2 ♖a3-+

1...♗d4+

1...♖h6 2.♖d1 ♖h2+ 3.♔f3 ♖xa2 (3...♖h3+ 4.♔g2 ♖g3+ 5.♔f1=) 4.♖d5=

2.♔f3 ♖h6 3.♖e8 ♖h3+ 4.♔e2

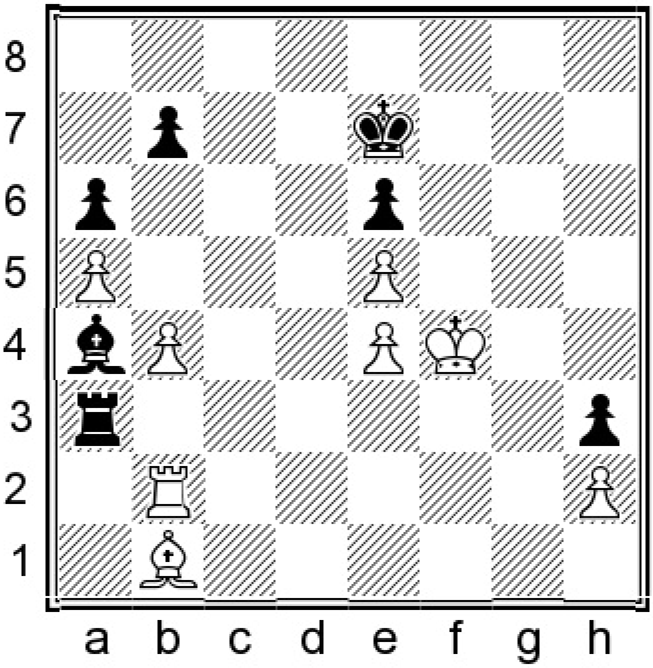
4.♔g2? ♖g3+ 5.♔f1 f3 6.♔e1 ♖g2-+

4...f3+ 5.♔d3! ♗a7

5...f2+ 6.♔xd4 ♖h6 (6...♖f3 7.♖f8+ ♔g4 8.♖g8+ ♔h3 9.♖h8+=) 7.♖e1 fxe1=Q 8.♗xe1=

6.♖f8+ ♔e6 7.♖e8+ ♔d5= 8.♖d8+ ♔c6 9.♖d6+ ♔c7 10.♖f6 f2+ 11.♔e2 ♖e3+ 12.♔f1 ♖e4 13.♖f7+ ♔b8 14.♖f8+ ♔b7 15.♖f7+ ♔a6 16.♖f6+ ♔b7 17.♖f7+ 1/2-1/2

9. Keymer, Vincent (2607) - Praggnanandhaa, Rameshbabu (2617)
chess24.com (Internet-rapid), 2021
♖ 9/k


8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

1.? +−

Show/Hide Solution

1.♖a2! ♖xa2

1...♖b3 2.♗c2+-

2.♗xa2 ♗c2

2...♗b5 3.♗b3 ♗e2 4.♔g3 ♗f1 5.♔h4 ♔f7 (5...♗g2 6.♗d1+-) 6.♗d1 ♗d3 7.♗g4+-

3.♗c4 ♔f7 4.♗f1

4.♔g4 ♗xe4 5.♔xh3+-

4...♗b3 5.♗xh3 ♔g6 6.♗g4 ♗c4 7.h4 ♗b3 8.♔e3 ♔f7 9.♔d4 ♔e7 10.♔c5 ♗c2 11.♗f3 1-0

TOURNAMENTS

REYKJAVÍK, VIII—IX 2021
21st European Individual Championship
(180 players, 11 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move one.

1—2. An. Demchenko, V. Keymer 8½, 3—4. A. Sarana, B.-D. Deac 8, 5—18. Piorun, Rauf Mamedov, V. Erdős, Huschenbeth, D. Navara, V. Şanal, M. Blübaum, D. Vocaturo, M. Al. Antipov, L. Paichadze (13602934), Mus. En. Yilmaz, D. Fridman, Nidj. Mamedov, R. Svane 7½, 19—37. Gabuzyan, V. Ivić, Gá. Nagy (737119), J. Bjerre, Max. Lagarde, L. Pantsulaia, Nisipeanu, Sargissian, Grandelius, Alexa. Donchenko, Šebenik, Je. S. Thybo, Quparadze, H. Martirosyan, C. Lupulescu, Nguyen Thai Dai Van, He. Grétarsson, Em. Can, Y. Sokolovsky 7, 38—52. Ro. Hovhannisyan, E. Romanov (4148843), Iv.Šarić, Do. Horvath (1642561), N. Abasov, G. Gajewski, Jor. Ferreira, M.-E. Pârligras, H. Steingrímsson, J. Druska, Paravyan, T. Bánusz, Rov. Vogel, Mat. Bartel, N. Lubbe 6½, etc.

23 players Qualified for the next FIDE World Cup 2023.

CHESS24.com, VIII—IX 2021
The Meltwater Champions Chess Tour — Aimchess US Rapid

The Tour consists of 10 events (6 Regular, 3 Majors and the Finals). Each tournament will last 9 days (no free days) unless otherwise specified in its announcement. There are prizes for every individual event. The Tour winner will be the winner of the Finals.

The Goldmoney Asian Rapid was the 9th event on the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour and the 6th Regular.

The Preliminaries

The 3-day preliminary stage sees the 16 players play each other once before the bottom 8 are eliminated while the top 8 advance to a knockout consisting of 2-day matches.

Time Control: 15 minutes for all moves + 10 seconds increment per move from move one.

				1	2	4	3	7	5	6	9	8	11	10	12	13	14	15	16	
1	V. ARTEMIEV	g	2757*	▬	½	1	½	1	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	½	1	1	1	10½
2	M. CARLSEN	g	2881	½	▬	½	0	1	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	1	½	1	1	10
3	ARONIAN	g	2761	0	½	▬	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	0	½	1	1	1	1	9½
4	A. FIROUZJA	g	2696	½	1	½	▬	½	½	½	1	½	1	0	½	1	½	1	½	9½
5	W. SO	g	2774	0	0	½	½	▬	½	1	1	½	½	1	0	½	1	1	1	9
6	MAMEDYAROV	g	2756	½	½	½	½	½	▬	½	1	½	½	½	1	0	1	½	1	9
7	J.-K. DUDA	g	2775	½	½	½	½	0	½	▬	0	½	1	½	1	1	1	½	1	9
8	DOMÍNGUEZ PÉREZ	g	2786	½	½	0	0	0	0	1	▬	½	½	1	1	1	0	1	1	8
9	ANISH GIRI	g	2744	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	▬	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	8
10	VACHIER-LAGRAVE	g	2817	0	0	0	0	½	½	0	½	½	▬	½	1	1	1	1	1	7½
11	S. VIDIT	g	2636	½	½	1	1	0	½	½	0	½	½	▬	½	0	1	½	½	7½
12	D. NARODITSKY	g	2639	½	0	½	½	1	0	0	0	½	0	½	▬	1	1	½	0	6
13	LE QUANG LIEM	g	2744	½	0	0	0	½	1	0	0	½	0	1	0	▬	½	1	1	6
14	J. VAN FOREEST	g	2563	0	½	0	½	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	½	▬	1	1	4½
15	ERIC HANSEN	g	2579	0	0	0	0	0	½	½	0	½	0	½	½	0	0	▬	1	3½
16	AW. LIANG	g	2397	0	0	0	½	0	0	0	0	½	0	½	1	0	0	0	▬	2½

For each of the knockout rounds, each matchup plays 2 matches of 4 rapid games on back-to-back days. If either player does not lose either match, he advances to the next round. If each player wins one match, there is a tiebreaker on day 2 consisting of 2 blitz games. If the players split the 2 blitz games, they play an Armageddon match (White has 5 minutes, Black has 4 minutes, draw is a win for Black) to determine who advances. The higher seed in the matchup gets to pick the color for the first game, the color for the first blitz tiebreaker game, and the color for the Armageddon.

Quarter-finals:

Match 1				1	2	3	4	
	V. ARTEMIEV	g	2757	½	0	½	1	2
	L. DOMÍNGUEZ PÉREZ	g	2786	½	1	½	0	2

Match 2				1	2	3	4	
	L. DOMÍNGUEZ PÉREZ	g	2786	½	½	0	0	1
	V. ARTEMIEV	g	2757	½	½	1	1	3

Match 1				1	2	3	
	A. FIROUZJA	g	2696	1	1	½	2½
	W. SO	g	2774	0	0	½	½

Match 2				1	2	3	4		5**	6**	
	W. SO	g	2774	½	0	1	1	2½	½	0	½
	A. FIROUZJA	g	2696	½	1	0	0	1½	½	1	1½

Match 1				1	2	3	
	M. CARLSEN	g	2881	1	½	1	2½
	J.-K. DUDA	g	2775	0	½	0	½

Match 2				1	2	3	
	J.-K. DUDA	g	2775	0	½	0	½
	M. CARLSEN	g	2881	1	½	1	2½

Match 1				1	2	3	4	
	ARONIAN	g	2761	1	0	1	1	3
	MAMEDYAROV	g	2756	0	1	0	0	1

Match 2				1	2	3	
	MAMEDYAROV	g	2756	0	½	½	1
	ARONIAN	g	2761	1	½	½	2

Semi-finals:

Match 1				1	2	3	4	
	V. ARTEMIEV	g	2757	1	½	½	0	2
	A. FIROUZJA	g	2696	0	½	½	1	2

Match 2				1	2	3	4		5**	6**	7***	
	A. FIROUZJA	g	2696	½	1	0	½	2	½	½	0	1
	V. ARTEMIEV	g	2757	½	0	1	½	2	½	½	1	2

Match 1				1	2	3	4	
	M. CARLSEN	g	2881	½	½	½	½	2
	ARONIAN	g	2761	½	½	½	½	2

Match 2				1	2	3	4	
	ARONIAN	g	2761	0	½	½	0	1
	M. CARLSEN	g	2881	1	½	½	1	3

Final:

Match 1				1	2	3	4	
	V. ARTEMIEV	g	2757	0	0	1	½	1½
	M. CARLSEN	g	2881	1	1	0	½	2½

Match 2				1	2	3	
	M. CARLSEN	g	2881	1	½	1	2½
	V. ARTEMIEV	g	2757	0	½	0	½

* Rapid rating; ** Blitz; *** Armageddon

SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA, VIII—IX 2021
The 3rd San Cristobal de La Laguna Open
(133 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes + 30 seconds increment starting from move one.

1. T. Sosa 7½, 2—4. Chatalbashev, H. Barseghyan, B. Kurajica 7, 5—13. A. Šarić, Al. Striković, M. Camacho Collados, Movsziszian, Milliet, Santos Ruiz, J. Cuenca Jiménez, Ambartsumova, Matamoros Franco 6½, etc.

CHARLOTTE, IX 2021
The CCCSA Charlotte Labor Day

Time Control: 90 minutes + 30 seconds increment starting from move one.

GM Tournament A cat. IX (2455)

1. Ch. Yoo 6½, 2. Ali Marandi 6, 3—5. K. Dragun, I. Beradze, T. Ringoir 5½, 6. S. Bora 5, 7. Mardov 4, 8. Alek. Ostrovskiy 3, 9—10. Ar. Guo, Griffith 2

GM Tournament B cat. IX (2456)

1—2. N. Theodorou, A. Hong 6½, 3. Roussel-Roozmon 5½, 4. Justin Wang (30911370) 5, 5. J. Sheng 4½, 6—7. Ma. Paragua, L. Rozman 4, 8. Korley 3½, 9. Tianqi Wang 3, 10. Panchanathan 2½

STAVANGER, IX 2021
The 9th Norway Chess Tournament

cat. XXI (2760)

The Norway Chess is a 6-player double round-robin tournament. Each of the 10 rounds consists of a classical game where a win is worth 3 points and a loss 0. If the players draw they play an Armageddon game, where the winner earns 1½ points and the loser 1 point. No draw offers are allowed before move 30.
Time Control: 120 minutes for all moves, with a 10 seconds increment per move only after move 40. For Armageddon White (the same player who had White in the classical game) has 10 minutes to Black's 7, with a 1-second increment from move 41. Black wins if the game ends in a draw.

				1	2	3	4	5	6		
1	M. CARLSEN	g	2855	▬ ▬	1½ 3	1½ 3	1½ 1½	0 3	1½ 3	19½	1
2	A. FIROUZJA	g	2754	1 0	▬ ▬	0 3	1 3	1 3	3 3	18	2
3	R. RAPPORT	g	2760	1 0	3 0	▬ ▬	1 1	1½ 3	3 3	16½	3
4	NEPOMNIACHTCHI	g	2792	1 1	1½ 0	1½ 1½	▬ ▬	3 1	1½ 0	12	4
5	SERGEY KARJAKIN	g	2758	3 0	1½ 0	1 0	0 1½	▬ ▬	1½ 1½	10	5
6	A. TARI	g	2642	1 0	0 0	0 0	1 3	1 1	▬ ▬	7	6

STAVANGER (open), IX 2021
The Norway Chess Open
(35 players, 10 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for all moves + 30 seconds increment from move 1.

1. Gukesh Dommaraju 8½, 2. P. Iniyan 7½, 3—4. D. Kollars, V. Dragnev 7, 5—7. T. Stremavičius, Evgeny Romanov (4148843), Kaasen 6½, 8—10. V. Kunin, Erik Blomqvist (1709437), E. Mikalsen 6, etc.

SAINT LOUIS, IX 2021
The Champions Showdown: Chess 9LX

Time Control: 20 minutes for all moves + 5 seconds increment from move 1.

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1	L. DOMÍNGUEZ PÉREZ	g	2758	▬	1	½	0	½	0	1	1	1	1	6	1
2	W. SO	g	2772	0	▬	1	0	½	1	½	1	½	1	5½	2—4
3	VACHIER-LAGRAVE	g	2751	½	0	▬	1	1	0	½	1	½	1	5½	2—4
4	S. SHANKLAND	g	2709	1	1	0	▬	0	½	½	½	1	1	5½	2—4
5	GA. KASPAROV	g	2812	½	½	0	1	▬	½	1	0	½	1	5	5
6	F. CARUANA	g	2806	1	0	1	½	½	▬	½	0	0	1	4½	6
7	ARONIAN	g	2782	0	½	½	½	0	½	▬	1	1	0	4	7
8	MAMEDYAROV	g	2782	0	0	0	½	1	1	0	▬	1	0	3½	8
9	HI. NAKAMURA	g	2736	0	½	½	0	½	1	0	0	▬	½	3	9
10	SVIDLER	g	2714	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	½	▬	2½	10

CHELYABINSK, IX 2021
The Panchenko Memorial
(147 players, 10 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes with 30 second increment from move 1.

1—2. Salemgareev, Pridorozhni 7½, 3—13. Nikita Afanasiev (24183555), Artyom Timofeev, Sergey Volkov (4122763), Sha. Sargsyan, Alexei Fedorov, D. Lintchevski, S. Drygalov, Ar. Nesterov, S. Azarov, Evgeny A. Levin, Matinian 7, 14—25. Sivuk, A. Gutenev, Aleksej Aleksandrov, Dm. Kokarev, Lazavik, Man. Petrosyan, Schekachikhin, A. Gabrielian, M. Nikitenko, Zarubitski, Ar. Urazayev, Z. Agmanov 6½, etc.

SHARJAH, IX 2021
The 4th Sharjah Masters
(60 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for all moves + 30 seconds increment from move 1.

1—4. Moha. Tabatabaei, Eljanov, A. R. S. Salem, P. Maghsoodloo 6½, 5—9. M. Mchedlishvili, Jumabayev, S. L. Narayanan, N. Yakubboev, Ab. Gupta 6, 10—17. Adhiban, Delgado Ramírez, Erigaisi Arjun, Abdusattorov, H. Niemann, Paravyan, R. Sadhwani, J. Sindarov 5½, etc.

ZLÍN, IX 2021
The Czech Championship

cat. XII (2530)

1. V. Plát 6½, 2—3. Žilka, Jan Krejčí (322156) 6, 4. Vlastimil Babula (301264) 5, 5. Jiří Štoček (304760) 4½, 6—7. Nguyen Thai Dai Van, Zwardoň 4, 8. Ma. Petr 3½, 9. T. Polák 3, 10. R. Mládek 2½

STRUGA, IX 2021
The 36th European Club Cup
(38 teams, 7 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves + 30 minutes to the end of the game, with a 30 seconds increment from move one.

1. Mednyi Vsadnik 13*/236,5**/29½*** [Svidler 2½/6, An. Esipenko 4/6, Vl. Fedoseev 3½/6, K. Alekseenko 5½/6, Matlakov 3½/5, P. Ponkratov 4½/6, K. Sakaev 3/3, A. Goganov 3/4], **2.** AVE Nový Bor 12/201,5/27½ [P. Harikrishna 3/6, R. Wojtaszek 3/6, D. Navara 5½/7, M. Ragger 3½/6, Antón Guijarro 5½/7, Sasikiran 2½/4, Mat. Bartel 4½/6], **3.** Vugar Gashimov 11/191/28½ [Rauf Mamedov 3½/5, K. Shevchenko 4/7, V. Asadli 4/6, A. Suleymanli 5/7, U. Sadikhov 5/7, A. Ahmadzada 4/6, M. Ibrahimli 3/4], **4.** KPRF 10/201,5/27½ [A. Grischuk 5/7, Vl. Malakhov 3/6, Dreev 1½/3, Zvjaginsev 4½/6, S. Rublevsky 4/6, Evgeny Alekseev 4½/7, K. Sychev 2½/4, Alexei Kornev 2½/3], **5.** Skákfélag Selfoss 10/188,5/28 [Alexa. Donchenko 5/7, An. Demchenko 5½/7, Mi. Al. Antipov 5/7, Lomasov 5½/7, Arngrímsson 3½/7, Lagerman 3½/7], **6.** Team XtraCon 10/175,5/26½ [F. Berkes 4½/7, T. Bánusz 3/7, Gábor Papp 4/7, Je. Thybo 5/6, Rozentalis 5/7, Chatalbashev 4/6, Hen. Danielsen 1/2], **7.** Sloven Ruma 10/150,5/24 [A. Indić 3/7, I. Ivanišević 4/6, I. Miladinović 2½/6, Mil. Perunović 3½/6, Mir. D. Miljković 4½/7, G. Kosanović 2/3, Miloš Stanković 4½/7], **8.** Alkaloid 9/229/29½, **9.** Silla-Valencia Orígen del Ajedrez 9/201/26½, **10.** Schachgesellschaft Riehen 9/142/24½, **11.** Stocholms SS 9/129/22, **12.** BEER SHEVA 8/168/24, **13.** Offerspill Sjakklubb 8/143/25, **14.** Prilep 8/123/19½, **15.** Maribor Poligram 8/114,5/21½, **16.** Lunds ASK 8/110,5/21, etc.

* Matchpoints (2 for wins, 1 for draws, 0 for losses)
** Olympiad—Sonneborn—Berger—Tie-Break without lowest result (Khanty-Mansiysk)
*** Game-points

STRUGA, IX 2021
The 25th European Women Club Cup
(8 teams, 7 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves + 30 minutes to the end of the game, with a 30 seconds increment from move one.

1. South Ural 14*/117**/22*** [Saduakassova 3½/6, Gunina 5/6, Badelka 5/6, Al. Maltsevskaya 4½/6, Solozhenkina 4/4], **2.** Monte-Carlo 11/95/19 [Goryachkina 4½/7, Dzagnidze 4/6, P. Cramling 2½/5, E. Pähtz 5½/7, Al. Skripchenko 2½/3], **3.** GRECO — Kyiv Chess Federation 10/93,5/18 [A. Muzychuk 3½/6, Abdumalik 4½/6, M. Muzychuk 4/6, Osmak 3/5, N. Buksa 3/5], **4.** SK Erste Bank Baden 9/74/15, **5.** Kumanovo 4/23,5/7½, **6.** Tajfun — SK Ljubljana 3/65,5/9½, **7.** Alkaloid 3/64,5/11, **8.** MSK Centar 2/51/10

* Matchpoints (2 for wins, 1 for draws, 0 for losses)
** Olympiad—Sonneborn—Berger—Tie-Break without lowest result (Khanty-Mansiysk)
*** Game-points

DOUGLAS, IX 2021
The Manx Liberty Masters

cat. XII (2531)

Time Control: 100 minutes for 40 moves, followed by 50 minutes for 20 moves and then 15 minutes to the end of the game, plus a 30 seconds increment starting from move 1.

1. McShane 6½, 2. Piorun 6, 3—5. M.-E. Pârligras, C. Lupulescu, Da. Gavrilescu 5½, 6. V. Erdős 4, 7—8. B. Csonka, Galyas 3½, 9. R. Pert 3, 10. Kolbus 2

BERLIN, IX 2021
The DSB Rising Stars GM

cat. VIII (2439)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move one.

1—2. A. Krastev, Buckels 5½, 3—6. P. Hába, Evgeny Romanov (4148843), M. Saltaev, R. Köllner 5, 7. L. Sawlin 4, 8—9. Z. Lanka, Ash. Parvanyan 3½, 10. Ri. Bethke 3

PODHÁJSKA, IX 2021
The Slovak GM Championship

cat. VIII (2426)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves, followed by 30 minutes to the end of the game, plus a 30-second increment starting from move one.

1—2. M. Neugebauer, Je. Pecháč 6, 3. J. Druska 5½, 4—5. Šte. Mazúr, Sa. Sahidi 5, 6—7. Petényi, S. Kostolanský 4½, 8—9. Marián Jurčík, M. Pacher 3½, 10. Ištoňa 1½

LICHESS.org, IX 2021
The 12th China Hainan Danzhou Super Grandmaster Tournament

Time Control: 15 minutes + 10 second per games

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1	DING LIREN	g	2836*	▬	1	½	1	1	½	1	½	5½	1
2	V. TOPALOV	g	2668	0	▬	1	½	1	1	½	1	5	2—3
3	WEI YI	g	2752	½	0	▬	½	1	1	1	1	5	2—3
4	VITIUGOV	g	2619	0	½	½	▬	½	½	½	1	3½	4
5	YU YANGYI	g	2738	0	0	0	½	▬	½	1	1	3	5
6	BU XIANGZHI	g	2642	½	0	0	½	½	▬	½	½	2½	6
7	JU WENJUN	g	2610	0	½	0	½	0	½	▬	½	2	7
8	R. RAPPORT	g	2750	½	0	0	0	0	½	½	▬	1½	8

* Rapid rating

MALMÖ, IX 2021
The TePe Sigeman & Co Tournament

cat. XVI (2642)

Time Control: 100 minutes for 40 moves, followed by 50 minutes for 20 moves, then 15 minutes to the end of the game, with a 30 seconds increment starting from move 1.

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1	J. VAN FOREEST	g	2691	▬	0	1	1	½	½	1	1	5	1
2	GAW. JONES	g	2684	1	▬	½	½	½	0	½	1	4	2—4
3	V. KEYMER	g	2607	0	½	▬	½	1	1	½	½	4	2—4
4	N. SHORT	g	2626	0	½	½	▬	½	½	1	1	4	2—4
5	GRANDELIUS	g	2666	½	½	0	½	▬	1	0	1	3½	5
6	NIHAL SARIN	g	2652	½	1	0	½	0	▬	½	½	3	6—7
7	É. BACROT	g	2658	0	½	½	0	1	½	▬	½	3	6—7
8	J. BJERRE	g	2550	0	0	½	0	0	½	½	▬	1½	8

CHESS24.com, IX—X 2021
The Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Finals

The 2021 Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Finals is a 10-player all-play-all tournament. The players start with bonus points based on their performance over the $1.6 million tour so far and then play a match each day for a maximum of 3 points. The top scorer after 9 rounds wins $100,000 and is crowned the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour champion.
Each match features four rapid games with a time control of 15 minutes for all moves plus a 10-second increment added each move. The winner gets 3 points and the loser 0. If tied 2:2, then a blitz playoff is played, with two games where the players have 5 minutes and a 3-second increment. If still tied they play a single Armageddon game, where White has 5 minutes to Black's 4, but a draw counts as a win for Black. The winner after a playoff gets 2 points, the loser 1.

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Bonus	Points	
1	M. CARLSEN	g	2842	▬	3	0	0	2	3	0	2	2	3	16½	15	31½
2	W. SO	g	2766	0	▬	0	0	2	1	3	0	3	2	12½	11	23½
3	ARONIAN	g	2761	3	3	▬	0	3	0	3	1	3	0	8	16	24
4	T. RADJABOV	g	2747	3	3	3	▬	1	1	1	3	3	3	6	21	27
5	ANISH GIRI	g	2712	1	1	0	2	▬	2	0	3	0	0	5½	9	14½
6	HI. NAKAMURA	g	2836	0	2	3	2	1	▬	2	2	2	3	4	17	21
7	V. ARTEMIEV	g	2755	3	0	0	2	3	1	▬	2	3	0	3½	14	17½
8	VACHIER-LAGRAVE	g	2773	1	3	2	0	0	1	1	▬	0	3	2½	11	13½
9	MAMEDYAROV	g	2727	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	▬	1	½	9	9½
10	J.-K. DUDA	g	2801	0	1	3	0	3	0	3	0	2	▬	0	12	12

PLOVDIV, IX—X 2021
The Junior U-21 Round Table Open Championship

(57 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves, followed by 15 minutes to the end of the game, plus a 30 seconds increment starting from move 1.

1—2. A. Sarana, Erigaisi Arjun 7, 3—5. Abhim. Puranik, Bharath Subramaniyam, Gukesh Dommaraju 6½, 6—11. H. Niemann, Ma. Muradli, Ts. Stoyanov, Mart. Petrov, L. van Foreest, Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu 6, 12—15. V. Asadli, P. Iniyan, N. Bashirli, Blohberger 5½, etc.

KIEL, X 2021
The Doppelbauer Kiel GM

cat. VIII (2440)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1. N. Meshkovs 7, 2. Fred. Svane 6½, 3. J. Hector 6, 4—5. Khenkin, As. Parvanyan 4½, 6. Baenziger 4, 7—8. Fi. Olsen, L. Vrolijk 3½, 9. J. Pajeken 3, 10. M. Arndt 2½

HULL, X 2021
The British OTB Championship

(22 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1. Nich. Pert 6½, 2—6. Gormally, M. Harvey, Hebden, A. Ledger, H. Olson 6, 7—8. J. McPhillips, P. Finn 5½, 9. K. Arkell 5, etc.

TSAGHKADZOR, X 2021
The ChessMood Open

(103 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1. A. Goganov 7½, 2—4. S. L. Narayanan, L. Pantsulaia, T. L. Petrosian 7, 5—10. Ter-Sahakyan, Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu, Aram Hakobyan (13306677), Abhim. Puranik, Ma. Mosadeghpour, Karthik Venkataraman 6½, 11—16. G. Dilanyan, D. Shahinyan, L. Paichadze (13602934), Man. Petrosyan, A. Mikaelyan, Vaishali R. 6, 17—26. Mam. Gharibyan, Erigaisi Arjun, Babujian, Gukesh Dommaraju, Shant Sargsyan, Chaqryan, Daghli, Schekachikhin, Tigran K. Harutyunyan, V. Danielyan 5½, etc.

ZAGREB, X 2021
The 7th Zagreb Tournament of Peace

cat. XIV (2600)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1	IG. KOVALENKO	g	2647	▬	½	½	1	½	1	½	1	1	0	6	1
2	KOŽUL	g	2601	½	▬	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	5½	2
3	S. MOVSESIAN	g	2627	½	½	▬	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	5	3—4
4	H. STEVIĆ	g	2570	0	½	½	▬	½	1	1	½	½	½	5	3—4
5	M. PALAC	g	2517	½	½	½	½	▬	0	½	½	½	1	4½	5—6
6	E. INARKIEV	g	2668	0	½	½	0	1	▬	½	½	½	1	4½	5—6
7	É. BACROT	g	2658	½	½	½	0	½	½	▬	0	1	½	4	7—8
8	ANTE BRKIĆ	g	2621	0	0	½	½	½	½	1	▬	0	1	4	7—8
9	ZELČIĆ	g	2522	0	½	½	½	½	½	0	1	▬	0	3½	9
10	MARIN BOSIOČIĆ	g	2573	1	0	0	½	0	0	½	0	1	▬	3	10

SAINT LOUIS, X 2021
The US Chess Championship

cat. XVIII (2679)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1	F. CARUANA	g	2800	▬	½	0	½	1	1	½	1	1	½	0	½	6½	1—3
2	W. SO	g	2778	½	▬	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	½	6½	1—3
3	S. SEVIAN	g	2654	1	½	▬	½	½	0	½	½	½	1	½	1	6½	1—3
4	DOMÍNGUEZ PÉREZ	g	2760	½	½	½	▬	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	½	6	4—6
5	R. ROBSON	g	2669	0	½	½	½	▬	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	6	4—6
6	LENDERMAN	g	2607	0	½	1	½	½	▬	½	½	½	½	1	½	6	4—6
7	S. SHANKLAND	g	2714	½	½	½	0	½	½	▬	½	1	0	1	½	5½	7
8	D. ŚWIERCZ	g	2647	0	0	½	½	½	½	½	▬	0	½	1	1	5	8—9
9	JOHN M. BURKE	g	2554	0	0	½	½	½	½	0	1	▬	1	½	½	5	8—9
10	JEF. XIONG	g	2700	½	½	0	½	0	½	1	½	0	▬	0	1	4½	10—11
11	D. NARODITSKY	g	2623	1	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	½	1	▬	½	4½	10—11
12	BRUZÓN BATISTA	g	2645	½	½	0	½	½	½	½	0	½	0	½	▬	4	12

Playoff (rapid)

Time Control: 10 minutes plus 2 seconds per move

				1	2	3	
1	W. SO	g	2766*	▬	1	1	2
2	F. CARUANA	g	2775	0	▬	1	1
3	S. SEVIAN	g	2597	0	0	▬	0

* Rapid rating

LA NUCIA, X 2021
The La Nucia Open

(88 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—3. P. Iniyan, Vasquez Schroeder, Sumets 7, 4—7. E. Postny, Santos Ruiz, S. Fedorchuk, Cruz Lledo 6½, 8—16. A. Domingo Nuñez, Benet Morant, R. Vinuesa Sorli, D. Cori Tello, Jony León Valdés, Vassallo Barroche, A. Castellanos Gómez, G. Ayats Llobera, Solodovnichenko 6, etc.

UFA, X 2021
The Superfinals of Russian Championship

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

OPEN SECTION
The 74th Russian Championship

cat. XVIII (2677)

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1	VITIUGOV	g	2727	▬	½	1	1	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	½	7	1
2	MATLAKOV	g	2682	½	▬	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	6½	2
3	VL. FEDOSEEV	g	2704	0	½	▬	½	½	0	1	1	½	1	½	½	6	3—4
4	ANDREIKIN	g	2728	0	½	½	▬	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	6	3—4
5	AN. ESIPENKO	g	2720	½	½	½	½	▬	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	5½	5—9
6	P. PONKRATOV	g	2659	½	½	1	½	½	▬	0	0	½	½	½	1	5½	5—9
7	MOTYLEV	g	2624	½	½	0	½	½	1	▬	½	½	½	0	1	5½	5—9
8	PREDKE	g	2666	½	½	0	½	½	1	½	▬	0	½	1	½	5½	5—9
9	K. ALEKSEENKO	g	2710	0	½	½	0	½	½	½	1	▬	½	1	½	5½	5—9
10	ALE. RAKHMANOV	g	2657	½	½	0	0	½	½	½	½	½	▬	½	½	4½	10—11
11	GORYACHKINA	g	2602	½	0	½	½	½	½	1	0	0	½	▬	½	4½	10—11
12	CHIGAEV	g	2639	½	0	½	½	½	0	0	½	½	½	½	▬	4	12

WOMEN'S SECTION
The 71st Russian Women's Championship

cat. VII (2422)

1. Gunina 8, 2—3. E. Ovod, Shuvalova 7½, 4. Kashlinskaya 6½, 5—6. Pogonina, Garifullina 6, 7. Galliamova 5½, 8. O. Giry 4½, 9. M. Guseva 4, 10—12. D. Voit, A. Bodnaruk, Bivol 3½

ARCO, X 2021
The 43rd Arco Open
(158 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—5. Bifulco, I. Starostits, F. Zeller, Jan Boder, Sirosh 7, 6—13. N. Pasini, J. Borgo, Vezzosi, J. Sarkar, P. Dittmar, Favaloro, F. Bettalli, J. Engesser 6½, 14—22. Romanishin, Fabr. Molina, S. Lohia, Bazilius, A. De Santis, An. Bordignon, Higatsberger, C. Marzano, M. Aigner (2017288) 6, etc.

FAGERNES, X 2021
The Fagernes Chess International
(68 players, 9 rounds)

Time control: 100 minutes for 40 moves plus 40 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—2. Hillarp Persson, E. Blomqvist (1709437) 7, 3—5. V. Şanal, Urkedal, V. Kunin 6½, 6—11. Külaots, Greenfeld, G. Kjartansson, Efroimski, Kaasen, E. Mikalsen 6, 12—19. T. Stremavičius, Seo Jung Min, Elsness, Altarbosh, Lu. Carlsson, Miezis, K. Jukšta, Julian Martin 5½, etc.

YEREVAN, X 2021
The 3rd Yerevan Open
(129 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—3. Abhim. Puranik, Sivuk, A. Mikaelyan 7½, 4. S. L. Narayanan 7, 5—10. Tahbaz, Erigaisi Arjun, Harsha Bharathakoti, Pultinevičius, Ho. Hayrapetyan, A. Goganov 6½, 11—23. Pour Agha Bala, Gukesh Dommaraju, Quparadze, T. L. Petrosian, K. Sychev, Karthik Venkataraman, Mam. Gharibyan, M. Nikitenko, Krishna Teja, L. Paichadze (13602934), Movsziszian, Hakemi, Babujian 6, etc.

TORNELO.com, X 2021
The European Youth Chess Championship

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

Open U—20
(23 players, 9 rounds)

1—3. Vo. Murzin, Pantzar, Salemgareev 7, 4. Gl. Dudin 6, 5. Stoleriu 5½, 6—7. Bruaset, Ka. Garayev 5, 8—14. Kirilmaz, Ben Ari, Ey. Rozen, Y. Sokolovsky, T. Kölle, A. Kalogridis, A. Tryggestad 4½, etc.

Open U—18
(37 players, 9 rounds)

1. U. Ilyasli 7½, 2—4. Ts. Stoyanov, R. Kavyev, Ham. Sorensen 6½, 5—6. Ta. Kanyamarala, M. Kazakos 6, 7—8. S. van Dael, Nils Richter 5½, 9—18. De. Kozlov (54104319), O. Elgersma, Ginés Esteo, Grutter, M. Sismeiro, Kucuksari, Rudovskii, Veljanoski, S. Elmi, D. Schernthaner 5, etc.

Open U—16
(64 players, 9 rounds)

1—2. A. Krastev, A. Lutsko 7, 3—5. A. Biçer, Vasile, Fragkos, Aa. Balaji 6½, 6—12. Putrenko, Sh. Talibov, Czernek, Rostomyan, Ant. Kirillov, Va. Hulka, Do. Laux 6, 13—17. M. Morgunov, Kristoferitsch, Pa. Trofimov (44112009), Garrido Outón, Ars. Davtyan 5½, etc.

Open U—14
(91 players, 9 rounds)

1. Alexey Zakharov 7½, 2—4. Khubukshanov, J. Habans Aguerrea, Y. Taşpinar 7, 5—7. Ja. Seemann, F. Krawczyk, Kanov 6½, 8—17. Má. Palczert, Vs. Ponomarev, Y. Veselov, D. Vergara Antón, Klimkowski, E. Gasparyan, V. Gasanov, T. Ince, Y. Uritsky, Seyid 6,etc.

Girls U—20
(10 players, 9 rounds)

1—2. La. Schulze, A. Śliwicka 7, 3. Afonasieva 6½, 4. Nosacheva 6, 5—6. E. Cvitan, Radeva 4½, etc.

Girls U—18
(32 players, 9 rounds)

1—2. Vi. Loskutova, Mal. Ismayil 7, 3. E. Miroshnik 6½, 4—5. So. Pogorelskikh, E. Walter 6, 6—9. Radiković, Galván Cipriani, Ricken, L. Hajiyeva 5½, 10—12. Marcinczyk, T. Esadze, Nu. Hercog 5, etc.

Girls U—16
(50 players, 9 rounds)

1. A. Allahverdiyeva (13412590) 7½, 2. Tr. Kanyamarala 7, 3—4. Tsotsonava, As. Hakobyan 6½, 5—9. Shpakivskaya, Marg. Zvereva, I. Hertlein, Gü. Kara, Pipiras 6, 10—13. Follana Albelda, Shuqja, Zabrzanska, Chuchukova 5½, etc.

Girls U—14
(71 players, 9 rounds)

1. P. Kobak 8, 2—3. G. Mikheeva, Lobo Pereira 7, 4—6. Abdinova, A. Shvedova, S. Gasimova 6½, 7—15. Zhapova, M. Siekańska, Di. Ivanova, Darmaeva, E. Omeri, Y. Marochkina, La. Putar, D. Kochavi, O. Vlasova 6, etc.

SVENDBORG, X 2021
The Danish Championship

cat. IX (2455)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1. Al. Rasmussen 7, 2—3. Sune B. Hansen, Je. Thybo 6½, 4. Schandorff 6, 5—7. N. Borge, J. Fries-Nielsen, Chatalbashev 4, 8. M. Haubro 3, 9. M. Antonsen 2½, 10. P. Rewitz 1½

CLAYTON, X 2021
The 15th Annual SPICE Cup Open
(32 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1. Nyzhnyk 7, 2—4. Gledura, Yu. Quesada Pérez, Ch. Yoo 6½, 5—8. Martínez Alcántara, B. Jacobson, Ju. Williams, Mardov 5½, 9—13. Moradiabadi, Bora, Chen Ryo, Ezra Paul Chambers, Proleiko 5, etc.

DHAKA, X 2021
The Sheikh Russel GM
(102 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1. Krasenkow 7, 2—7. Bernadskiy, Srin. Narayanan, Mitrabha, Sundar M. Shyam, Seyed Kh. Mousavi, V. Rasulov 6½, 8—20. Ma. Mosadeghpour, V. Asadli, Koustav Chatterjee, M. Iskandarov, Malakhatko, R. Laxman, Aditya Mittal (35042025), Sumets, Visakh N. R., Aronyak, N. Murshed, Cr. Rios, V. Pranav (25060783) 6, etc.

SAINT PETERSBURG, X 2021
The Chigorin Memorial
(272 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—2. Alexei Fedorov, D. Khismatullin 7½, 3—11. Sergei Lobanov, Kaasen, I. Rozum (24104272), E. Vorobiov, A. Goganov, K. Shubin, Ev. A. Levin, S. Khanin, Aleksej Aleksandrov 7, 12—25. E. Postny, V. Epishin, Isanzhulov, Gareyev, Ra. Faizrakhmanov, J. Vakhidov, D. Tsoi, G. Ponomarev, Kardashevskiy, Bazeev, M. Shchukin, M. Ibrahimli, A. Mokshanov, R. Isanbaev 6½, 26—50. V. Kunin, Dm. Kirillov (34180572), Tsaruk, Sh. Talibov, Kh. Babazada, D. Ibadov, Sergey Volkov (4122763), M. Vlasenko, Khripachenko, Akmalov, Z. Sichinava, M. Yashmetov, Zh. Amanov, A. Timerkhanov, S. Savitskiy, R. Kavyev, B. Thing, Zhurova, Al. Sharikov, A. Siniauski, Maksim Popov, Vs. Ponomarev, A. Khaliullin, A. Garmash, P. Klachkou 6, etc.

RIGA, X—XI 2021
The 2021 FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss Tournament and Women's Grand Swiss

Both tournaments are part of the qualifications for the 2021—23 World Championship cycle, with the top two players in the open event qualifying for the 2022 Candidates Tournament and the following six securing spots in the Grand Prix. The winner of the Women's Grand Swiss will qualify directly for the Women Candidates and four best players will qualify for the next year's Women's Grand Prix.

OPEN SECTION
(108 players, 11 rounds)

Time Control: 100 minutes for 40 moves, followed by 50 minutes for 20 moves and then 15 minutes to the end of the game, plus a 30 seconds increment starting from move 1.
1. A. Firouzja* (FRA) 8, 2. F. Caruana* (USA) 7½ [67.0***/72.5/49.75], 3. G. Oparin** (RUS) 7½ [63.5/68.5/45.75], 4. Yu Yangyi** (CHN) 7 [66.5/72.0/44.50], 5. V. Keymer** (GER) 7 [65.5/70.0/43.25], 6. Vachier-Lagrave** (FRA) 7 [65.0/70.0/43.50], 7. Predke** (RUS) 7 [64.5/70.0/42.25], 8. A. Shirov** (ESP) 7 [64.5/68.5/41.50], 9—16. D. Howell (ENG), Sargissian (ARM), Antón Guijarro (ESP), A. Korobov (UKR), S. Sevian (USA), An. Esipenko (RUS), B.-D. Deac (ROU), V. Artemiev (RUS) 7, 17—30. Man. Petrosyan (ARM), Nihal Sarin (IND), Daniil Dubov (RUS), Kuzubov (UKR), Vl. Fedoseev (RUS), Sjugirov (RUS), Vitiugov (RUS), Y. Kryvoruchko (UKR), Grandelius (SWE), Aronian (ARM), Jef. Xiong (USA), A. Sarana (RUS), K. Alekseenko (RUS), P. Harikrishna (IND) 6½, 31—46. Sasikiran (IND), P. Ponkratov (RUS), Najer (RUS), K. Shevchenko (UKR), D. Świercz (USA), Iv. Šarić (CRO), Ter-Sahakyan (ARM), P. Maghsoodloo (IRI), Mus. En. Yilmaz (TUR), Eljanov (UKR), A. Volokitin (UKR), J. Moussard (FRA), C. Henríquez Villagra (CHI), J. van Foreest (NED), Zvjaginsev (RUS), M. Al. Antipov (RUS) 6, etc.

* Qualified for the 2022 FIDE Candidates Tournament
** Qualified for the FIDE Grand Prix Tournaments which will be held in Berlin and Belgrade in 2022.
*** Tie Break 1 — Buchholz Cut 1/Tie Break 2 — Buchholz/Tie Break 3 — Sonneborn-Berger

WOMEN'S SECTION
(50 players, 11 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1. Lei Tingjie*/** (CHN) 9, 2. E. Pähtz** (GER) 7½ [69.5***/74.5/49.50], 3. Zhu Jiner** (CHN) 7½ [67.5/71.5/46.75], 4. M. Muzychuk** (UKR) 7 [69.0/74.0/46.50], 5—7. D. Harika (IND), L. Javakhishvili (GEO), Badelka (RUS) 7, 8—16. A. Kosteniuk (RUS), Pogonina (RUS), B. Assaubayeva (KAZ), J. Zawadzka (POL), D. Cori Tello (PER), Munguntuul (MGL), Vantika Agrawal (IND), O. Girya (RUS), P. Cramling (SWE) 6½, 17—23. Batsiashvili (GEO), Dzagnidze (GEO), Kashlinskaya (RUS), Shuvalova (RUS), Osmak (UKR), A. Stefanova (BUL), E. Atalik (TUR) 6, 24—31. Sukandar (INA), Abdumalik (KAZ), Gunina (RUS), Saduakassova (KAZ), Anna M. Sargsyan (ARM), Vaishali R. (IND), M. Soćko (POL), Kamalidenova (KAZ) 5½, etc.

* Qualified for the FIDE Women's Candidates Tournament
** Qualified for the FIDE Women's Grand Prix Tournaments
*** Tie Break 1 — Buchholz Cut 1/Tie Break 2 — Buchholz/Tie Break 3 — Sonneborn-Berger

CUIABÁ, X–XI 2021
The 87th Brazilian Championship
(205 players, 11 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—3. Supi, A. Fier, Dar. Lima 9, 4. Mekhitarian 8½, 5—12. Y. Santiago, Ch. Gauche, Di Berardino, Luc. A. Cunha, V. Labussière, Si. Oliveira, N. Filgueiras, Proudian 8, 13—26. Quintiliano Pinto, Umetsubo, Ro. Molina, J. Bittencourt, L. Brito, Aranha Filho, E. Matsuura, I. Cadilhac, Ev. Barbosa, E. Veiga, Sega, Gea. Pereira, Vi. F. Rocha, Lucas H. Silva 7½, etc.

CAP D'AGDE (open), X–XI 2021
The 19th Cap D'Agde Open 2021
(151 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—4. D. Sengupta, Alb. David, Mart. Petrov, Sivuk 7, 5—11. V. Larkin, P. Laurent-Paoli, A. Delchev, Shchekachev, Zelčić, A. Demuth, P. Duboue 6½, 12—29. Di Nicolantonio, L. Yankelevich, Ts. Stoyanov, Bernadskiy, M. Palac, Sumets, Krishna C. R. G., Mar. Materia, B. Bellahcene, M. Ternault, Dhulipalla Bala Chandra Prasad, V. Moskalenko (14100100), Ch. Monroy, Abergel, G. Flom, J.-N. Riff, Ph. Brochet, Au. Droin 6, etc.

GMUND AM TEGERNSEE, X–XI 2021
The 24th OIBM
(333 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—7. Santos Latasa, Delgado Ramírez, D. Mastrovasilis, Kobo, Mons, Gumularz, A. Mastrovasilis 7, 8—21. N. Guliyev, Ch. Noe, Al. Nguyen, Micha. Hoffmann (4601297), Morawietz, Hertneck, J. Hacker, Seul, Soham Das, A. Zude, N. Wachinger, V. Seifert, C. Oberhofer, Ed. Miller 6½, 22—42. L. Goldbeck, N. Nestorović, J. Rosner, J. Baum, S. Chanda, R. Zysk, Alexa. Suvorov (12977063), K. Schuster, Ben. Huber (12923583), O. De La Riva Aguado, Kindtner, M. Deuer, Max Hess, U. Weber (4616502), Ehrke, Geo. Braun, M. Forchert, E. Csiki, Zajogin, Lindam, H. Bräunlin 6,etc.

ARANĐELOVAC, X–XI 2021
The GM ASK 3 Tournament

cat. VIII (2445)

Time Control: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 15 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—2. Ru. Makarian, Sankalp Gupta (5097010) 6½, 3—4. B. Damljanović, S. Nitin 5½, 5. G. Dudin 5, 6. Mo. Petkov 4½, 7. D. Kosić 3½, 8. R. Sturt 3, 9—10. Krishna Teja, Da. Milanović 2½

RIGA (blitz), XI 2021
The Lindores Abbey Blitz tournament, held in honor of the 85th Anniversary of Mikhail Tal's birth
(120 players, 18 rounds)

Time Control: 3 minutes for the whole game with a 2 seconds increment starting from move one.

1. K. Shevchenko 14, 2—3. F. Caruana, Erigaisi Arjun 13½, 4—5. H. Martirosyan, D. Navara 12½, 6—14. Jef. Xiong, Daniil Dubov, Aronian, Svidler, S. Sevian, Sargissian, Man. Petrosyan, Vachier-Lagrave, Vl. Fedoseev 12, 15—19. B. Gelfand, Abdusattorov, Nihal Sarin, A. Sarana, An. Esipenko 11½, 20—21. A. Korobov, Antón Guijarro 11, 22—29. Onyshchuk, Rauf Mamedov, Ah. Adly, B.-D. Deac, H. Niemann, Predke, Kravtsiv, Grandelius 10½, etc.

NEW YORK, XI 2021
The New York Invitationals

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

GM A

cat. VIII (2435)

1. T. Stremavičius 6, 2. D. Khamrakulov 5½, 3—5. Yudasin, Jas. Liang, Ar. Guo 5, 6. Alek. Ostrovskiy 4½, 7—8. Roussel-Roozmon, E. Tian 4, 9—10. Griffith, Kaliksteyn 3

GM B

cat. VIII (2444)

1. Lenderman 7½, 2. B. Jacobson 6, 3. Ol. Barbosa 5½, 4. Shmeliov 5, 5. Kevin Wang (2008424) 4½, 6. L. Rozman 4, 7—8. Ch. Yoo, Wang Qibiao 3½, 9. Robert Perez (2035251) 3, 10. Korley 2½

KHANTY-MANSIYSK, XI 2021
The 17th Ugra Governor's Cup
(37 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1. Nikita Petrov (4101286) 6½, 2—7. Dm. Kokarev, D. Lintchevski, Ar. Nesterov, A. Goganov, Sergey Volkov (4122763), D. Bocharov 6, 8—11. I. Rozum (24104272), Kezin, Iljiushenok, Pridorozhni 5½, etc.

TASHKENT, XI 2021
The President of Uzbekistan Prizes Tournament
(103 players, 10 rounds)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—2. Sjugirov, H. Niemann 7½, 3—11. Matlakov, Bernadskiy, J. Sindarov, Chigaev, Fayzullaev, J. Vakhidov, Gareyev, M. Nikitenko, M. Kobalia 7, 12—18. N. Yakubboev, S. Vokhidov, Abdusattorov, Alexander Moiseenko, Evgeny Alekseev, Koziak, Zvjaginsev 6½, 19—34. Abdisalimov, Nigmatov, Ma. Muradli, Zarubitski, B. Sattarov, A. Suleymenov, M. Dzhumaev, P. Ponkratov, Nogerbek, Ghaem Maghami, Sivuk, D. Makhnev, Yakubbaeva, Vetoshko, Aleksej Aleksandrov, As. Aitbayev 6, etc.

TERME ČATEŽ, XI 2021
The European Team Championships

Time Control: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move one.

OPEN SECTION
The 23rd European Team Championship
(39 teams, 9 rounds)

1. Ukraine (UKR) 14*/212,5**/21½*** [Rtg Avg: 2656; Anton Korobov 4½/7, A. Volokitin 6/8, Kuzubov 3/6, K. Shevchenko 4½/8, Onyshchuk 3½/7], **2.** France (FRA) 14/207,5/21½ [Rtg Avg: 2708; A. Firouzja 8/9, Vachier-Lagrave 5½/9, É. Bacrot 3/6, Max. Lagarde 3/7, J. Moussard 2/5], **3.** Polska (POL) 13/192,5/22½ [Rtg Avg: 2678; J.-K. Duda 5½/8, R. Wojtaszek 4½/8, Piorun 5½/9, W. Moranda 5/7, Teclaf 2/4], **4.** España (ESP) 13/190/20 [Rtg Avg: 2646; A. Shirov 5/8, Antón Guijarro 6/9, Santos Latasa 3½/7, I. Salgado López 3/6, Santos Ruiz 2½/6], **5.** Azerbaijan (AZE) 12/224/21½ [Rtg Avg: 2717; Mamedyarov 5/8, T. Radjabov 4/8, Rauf Mamedov 4½/7, G. Guseinov 3/6, N. Abasov 5/7], **6.** Russia (RUS) 12/206,5/20½ [Rtg Avg: 2728; A. Grischuk 4½/9, Daniil Dubov 5/8, K. Alekseenko 3/6, V. Artemiev 3½/6, An. Esipenko 4½/7], **7.** Armenia (ARM) 12/206/21 [Rtg Avg: 2631; Sargissian 4½/8, H. Martirosyan 4/8, Ro. Hovhannisyan 6/9, Ter-Sahakyan 6/9, Gabuzyan ½/2], **8.** Srbija (SRB) 12/160,5/20 [Rtg Avg: 2611; A. Indić 5½/9, V. Ivić 3/6, I. Ivanišević 4½/9, Rob. Markuš 4½/7, Mil. Perunović 2½/5], **9.** Nederland (NED) 11/175,5/20½ [Rtg Avg: 2669; Anish Giri 6/9, L. van Foreest 3/5, J. van Foreest 6½/9, M. Warmerdam 3/8, Van den Doel 2/5], **10.** Deutschland (GER) 11/167/21 [Rtg Avg: 2646; Nisipeanu 3½/7, Alexa. Donchenko 3/7, V. Keymer 5/8, M. Blübaum 4/7, R. Svane 5½/7], **11.** Georgia (GEO) 10/162,5/18, **12.** Israel (ISR) 10/158,5/20, **13.** England (ENG) 10/154,5/19, **14.** Greece (GRE) 10/152/19½, **15.** Hrvatska (CRO) 10/148,5/19, **16.** Magyarország (HUN) 9/185,5/19½, **17.** Norge (NOR) 9/165/18, **18.** Türkiye (TUR) 9/154,5/18, **19.** Česko (CZE) 9/154/18½, **20.** Schweiz (SUI) 9/148,5/20, **21.** Österreich (AUT) 9/134/19, **22.** Danmark (DEN) 9/131/18½, **23.** Italia (ITA) 9/128,5/17½, etc.

* Matchpoints (2 for wins, 1 for draws, 0 for losses)
** Olympiad—Sonneborn—Berger—Tie-Break without lowest result (Khanty-Mansiysk)
*** Game-points

WOMEN'S SECTION
The 14th European Women's Team Championship
(31 teams, 9 rounds)

1. Russia (RUS) 18*/272,5**/29*** [Rtg Avg: 2538; Goryachkina 5½/7, Lagno 6/8, Gunina 4/6, Shuvalova 7/8, Kashlinskaya 6½/7], **2.** Georgia (GEO) 15/215,0/22½ [Rtg Avg: 2446; Dzagnidze 5½/7, L. Javakhishvili 6/8, M. Arabidze 4½/9, S. Melia 3/7, Gvetadze 3½/5], **3.** Azerbaijan (AZE) 12/196,0/22 [Rtg Avg: 2383; Gunay Mammadzada 6/9, Gulnar Mammadova 4/8, K. Balajayeva 4½/7, Fataliyeva 3½/5, G. Beydullayeva 4/7], **4.** Ukraine (UKR) 12/187,0/20 [Rtg Avg: 2448; A. Muzychuk 1/2, Osmak 2½/7, N. Buksa 4½/8, I. Gaponenko 4½/7, N. Zhukova 5½/8, Ushenina 2/4], **5.** Deutschland (GER) 11/153,5/21 [Rtg Avg: 2369; E. Pähtz 5/8, J. Heinemann 6/9, H. Klek 4/8, Jana Schneider 2½/5, M. Lubbe 3½/6], **6.** Srbija (SRB) 11/150,5/21½ [Rtg Avg: 2304; T. Injac 7/9, A. Velikić 1½/5, J. Erić 4½/9, M. Manakova 2/5, M. Gajčin 6½/8], **7.** Polska (POL) 10/194,5/19½, **8.** Nederland (NED) 10/178,5/21½, **9.** Italia (ITA) 10/175,5/19, **10.** France (FRA) 10/170,5/20, **11.** Armenia (ARM) 10/167,0/20, **12.** Magyarország (HUN) 10/153,0/20, **13.** Greece (GRE) 10/137,5/16½, **14.** România (ROU) 9/166,0/20, **15.** Slovensko (SVK) 9/134,0/18, **16.** Lietuva (LTU) 9/131,0/16½, **17.** Sverige (SWE) 9/117,0/16½, etc.

* Matchpoints (2 for wins, 1 for draws, 0 for losses)
** Olympiad—Sonneborn—Berger—Tie-Break without lowest result (Khanty-Mansiysk)
*** Game-points

KOLKATA, XI 2021
The Tata Steel India Rapid & Blitz

Rapid

Time Control: 25 minutes for all moves + 10 seconds increment per move from move one.

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1	ERIGAISI ARJUN	g	2323*	▬	½	0	½	1	1	1	1	½	1	6½	1
2	ARONIAN	g	2761	½	▬	½	1	½	1	½	0	1	½	5½	2—4
3	PRAGGNANANDHAA	g	1821	1	½	▬	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	5½	2—4
4	S. VIDIT	g	2639	½	0	½	▬	½	½	½	1	1	1	5½	2—4
5	MUR. KARTHIKEYAN	g	2388	0	½	½	½	▬	½	1	½	½	1	5	5—6
6	S. SHANKLAND	g	2647	0	0	½	½	½	▬	1	1	½	1	5	5—6
7	P. MAGHSOODLOO	g	2516	0	½	½	½	0	0	▬	1	1	1	4½	7
8	LE QUANG LIEM	g	2715	0	1	½	0	½	0	0	▬	1	1	4	8
9	ADHIBAN	g	2626	½	0	0	0	½	½	0	0	▬	½	2	9
10	VAISHALI R.	wg	2210	0	½	½	0	0	0	0	0	½	▬	1½	10

* Rapid rating

Blitz

Time Control: 3 minutes for all moves + 2 seconds increment per move from move one.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1 ERIGAISI ARJUN	▬ ▬	½ 1	½ 0	½ 0	1 0	½ 1	½ ½	1 ½	1 1	1 1	11½
2 ARONIAN	½ 0	▬ ▬	0 ½	½ ½	½ 1	½ 1	1 1	1 0	1 ½	1 1	11½
3 P. MAGHSOODLOO	½ 1	1 ½	▬ ▬	0 1	1 0	0 1	0 0	1 1	1 0	1 1	11
4 NIHAL SARIN	½ 1	½ ½	1 0	▬ ▬	0 1	½ 0	0 1	1 1	0 1	1 1	11
5 GUKESH DOMMARAJU	0 1	½ 0	0 1	1 0	▬ ▬	1 1	0 0	½ 1	1 1	½ ½	10
6 LE QUANG LIEM	½ 0	½ 0	1 0	½ 1	0 0	▬ ▬	1 0	0 ½	1 ½	1 1	8½
7 R. SADHWANI	½ ½	0 0	1 1	1 0	1 1	0 1	▬ ▬	0 0	0 0	0 1	8
8 S. SHANKLAND	0 ½	0 1	0 0	0 0	½ 0	1 ½	1 1	▬ ▬	1 1	½ 0	8
9 S. VIDIT	0 0	0 ½	0 1	1 0	0 0	0 ½	1 1	0 0	▬ ▬	1 ½	6½
10 D. HARIKA	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	½ ½	0 0	1 0	½ 1	0 ½	▬ ▬	4

Tie-break: Aronian — Erigaisi Arjun 2 : 1

BARBERÀ DEL VALLÈS, XI 2021
The 2nd Magistral Internacional

cat. IX (2460)

Time Control: 90 minutes for the entire game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

1—5. Sankalp Gupta (5097010), Asís Gargatagli, Alsina Leal, Vásquez Schroeder, Josep López Martínez 6, 6. Garriga Cazorla 4½, 7. Miguel Muñoz (3800229) 4, 8. Cr. Ríos 3½, 9. Cristian Andrés Hernández 2½, 10. Aarón Alonso García ½

HANGZHOU, XI 2021
The Chess Grandmaster Warmup Match

Time Control: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move one.

			1	2	3	4	
LU SHANGLEI	g	2616	0	½	½	0	1
DING LIREN	g	2799	1	½	½	1	3

CHARLOTTE, XI 2021
The US Chess Masters
(151 players, 9 rounds)

Time Control: 100 minutes + 30 seconds increment starting from move one.

1—2. Martínez Alcántara, Rahul Srivatshav 7, 3—15. D. Naroditsky, Aram Hakobyan (13306677), Akobian, N. Theodorou, John M. Burke, Ghaem Maghami, B. Jacobson, G. Flom, Ch. Yoo, Ak. Chandra, A. Fishbein, Bryan Smith, E. Park 6½, 16—23. Lenderman, N. Checa, M. Neef, Al. Shabalov, Becerra Rivero, Javakhadze, S. Bora, D. Aaron 6, etc.

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Svetlana Ignjatović

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